

The Journal

Volume XII, No. 1

Thursday, September 4, 1997

50 cents (Tax included)

Worth Checking Out

Church fetes 85th year

St. Mark's Church in Richmond is celebrating its 85th anniversary on Sunday, Sept. 7 with a carnival and craft fair from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. There will be performances, food and games at the family-oriented event. There's also a talent contest with a \$100 prize for the best act (interested performers can call 234-5886) and a raffle with a \$1,000 prize. St. Marks, 159 Harbor Way, is the second oldest church in Richmond. A multicultural church, it has a gospel choir and a service in Spanish.

Reduce, reuse, resell

Registration is underway for El Cerrito's eighth annual citywide garage sale, scheduled this year for Oct. 4. The event, sponsored by the city Recycling Center, attracts hundreds of weekend bargain hunters who navigate about town with the help of city-provided lists of participating households. The intent is to eliminate garage clutter and put useable items back into service. Registration deadline this year (only El Cerrito residents may participate as sellers) is Sept. 28. To sign up, complete the required form and return it to City Hall, 10890 San Pablo Ave. Maps and participant lists will be available throughout the city the week prior to the event. Details: 215-4350.

Albany Pasta Fest

The Solano Stroll wouldn't be complete without the Albany Chamber of Commerce Pasta Fest on Stroll Eve. The Royal Cafe, 811 San Pablo Ave., is again the site of the ninth annual event, set this year for 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 13.

Cost is \$12.50 for a great dinner that includes full pasta and capon breast dinner. Beer and wine, as well as no hard rockets will be available. Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce office, 1108 Solano Ave., or the Royal Cafe. Details: 525-1771.

Urban Agriculture

Share and learn practical skills in urban agriculture Sept. 13 when the Bay Area Coalition for Urban Agriculture hosts a Field Day at the Gill Tract, Marin and San Pablo in Albany, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Activities and demonstrations will include worm farming, raised garden beds, composting, starting seedlings, pesticide alternatives and double digging. There will be tours of urban agriculture projects at the Gill Tract, kids' activities, food and general community celebration. Details: 654-4400.

Jazz and Wine Fest

Daniel's Fine Food and all that Jazz, 827 San Pablo Ave. in Albany, hosts the 14th Albany Jazz and Wine Fest Sept. 17 to 20 with dinner served from 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. and music from 7:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. The lineup: Sept. 17, Henry Kaiser, Space Jazz; Sept. 18, Dave Garroway & Michael Wilcox; Sept. 19, Dave Widlock, Bill Douglass & Ben Goldberg; Sept. 20, Mad & Eddie Duran. Details and reservations: 524-0157.

Documentary series

"The Maestro: King of the Cowboy Artists," a personal look at Albany's own Harold Gato, kicks off "Documentaries With a Point of View," kickoff of a series presenting award-winning films by independent producers. The series, running on eight Mondays through November, starts with The Maestro on Sept. 22, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst in Berkeley. Details: 644-6107.

Attracting Birds, Butterflies

Which bugs are good for our gardens and what can we plant to attract them? Which bugs harm our plants and what plants should we avoid because they attract the bad bugs? Dr. John Mahoney, will present a slide show and make recommendations for what plants to plant in our yards that will provide good wildlife habitat on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 7:30 p.m. at the West Contra Costa Group of the Sierra Club meets at Northminster Presbyterian Church, 545 Ashbury, El Cerrito. Dr. Mahoney, a Richmond resident, is a gardener at Strybing Arboretum in Golden Gate Park.

West County school board race picks up pace

By Peter Orne

West Contra Costa Unified School District board candidates shared their campaign platforms with the public Tuesday night, Aug. 26, at a candidates' forum hosted by the El Cerrito Democratic Club at the Northminster Presbyterian Church in El Cerrito.

Three incumbents — Karen Fenton, Charles Ramsey and Woody Snodgrass — and four challengers — Deborah Dias, Christopher Griffin, Brian Leary and Glen Price — addressed issues of school

Voters will select winners of 3 open seats from field of 8 contenders

safety, finances, educational quality, the school-to-career transition, parental involvement and construction of a new middle school in Richmond. Candidate Manny Johnson could not attend.

"The number one priority is the educational quality in this district," said Brian Leary, an El Cerrito resident and PG&E engineer. "We have to improve test scores. We're on the bottom."

Leary proposed implementing a dramatic school site reconstitution

process to overhaul the district's educational system. "We'll tell that site that you have one year, and if you don't improve, we're going to get a new team in here — a new principal, a new program. We take our limited tax dollars and we aim them at that site. We don't call it Portola Middle School, we call it Portola Academy, and we tell the parents, 'Listen, we've changed. We apologize for running a low-performing school, but we're turning it around and we expect you to participate in your children's education 15 hours a year."

"It's a little controversial, it'll make news, but that's the kind of news we want," said Leary, who has participated in the Perry School Junior Achievement Program in Richmond and West County Residents for Fair Government.

Glen Price, another El Cerrito resident, claimed the district needs "a new mixture of leadership and vision." Price is financial development director at the YMCA of the

East Bay, founder of EcoNET, organizer of Portola Community Day, and co-chair of last November's successful Measure E school bond campaign. He also created and publishes the newsletter "West County School Watch."

Price explained a five-part platform that includes safety, community accountability, financial responsibility, a bond measure and empowerment and partnership. "I will form a district-wide task force to address the disease of violence in our schools," he said.

See BOARD on page 18

Doing the right thing

■ An Albany High School student's editorial on integration is as stirring today as it was 40 years ago.

By Greg Hugunin

ALBANY — Imagine that the year is 1957 — the year girls wore felt skirts and a '57 Chevy was a brand new car, but also the year when nine black students were turned away from a Little Rock high school at bayonet point by the Arkansas National Guard. Imagine that you, a 17-year-old student at Albany High School, write an editorial for the school newspaper, in which you condemn that action.

Imagine that your editorial, which appears on the same page as a story about "Girls' Week" ("fun, laughs, and activities"), is picked up by the *Oakland Tribune*, and later run by newspapers across the nation. Imagine it — your work, at the age of 17, being read across the United States.

Imagine your telephone ringing, and hearing strangers on the line, people who call you "n — lover," people you've never met. Imagine being frightened, at the age of 17, and having people hate you for your ideas.

Imagine walking out of your house one day on Key Route Boulevard, and finding a cross planted in your lawn. Imagine picking that cross up, and feeling ashamed because your parents might see it, and because you — a 17-year-old — don't want to cause any trouble.

For Berkeley resident Linda Levitsky, such things need not be imagined, as the editorial contained her words, words which helped shake up a nation. For daring to speak out during a time when Albany High School had quietly integrated and much of the rest of the country was grappling, often violently, with the issue, Levitsky (formerly Linda Rinna) received more than her share of scorn, but will also gain some honor this month when she journeys to Little Rock to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the integration of Central High School and to meet President Bill Clinton.

To understand the weight Levitsky's editorial carried at the time, one must understand the enormity of the conflict on which she focused. In 1957, the landmark Supreme Court decision *Brown v. Board of Education*, which deemed segregation of public schools unconstitutional, was barely three years old, and Little Rock's buses had been desegregated a scant year earlier.

In the fall of 1957, out of 80 black students who applied to all-white Central High School, 17 were admitted and only nine chose to attend. While the city's mayor,



On her Underwood typewriter, Linda Rinna (now Levitsky) wrote a memorable editorial in 1957 on a volatile issue.

Oct. 4, 1957

An Open Letter to Gov. Orval E. Faubus
The Honorable Orval E. Faubus Governor, State of Arkansas

Dear Governor,

We have followed the reports of violence and tragedy in your state. Now, at the risk of arousing your antagonism, we are writing to express our genuine concern and offer possible suggestions to ameliorate the bitterness of your conflict.

But before you write us off as nosey damn-Yankees, we too have had problems of racial prejudice in our community and state. We have seen our own Oriental and Negro citizens discriminated against. We recognize your dilemma but we cannot accept your negative attitude. Do you really believe that this problem can be solved by belligerency or simply closing your schools to Negroes?

Until the war years we had no Negroes at Albany High School and some people were afraid that the sudden influx of black Americans (almost all came directly from the South) would pollute our way of life. Fortunately the Negroes were allowed in our school. We say fortunately because we soon found these dark-skinned students were an asset to our school.

In our classrooms and on our playing fields we learned that Negroes had much to contribute. They had to struggle with lessons just as hard as we did and their A's, and B's, and F's — yes, F's, because like us, they aren't all scholars — counted just as much as ours did. And on the athletic field their touchdowns counted six points as did ours. Above all, their injuries were not different from ours nor was their blood. And when they pledged allegiance to our country and sang "The Star Spangled Banner" their voices were loud and strong.

We are a united country, and we refuse to rekindle the Civil War and the agonies of that great conflict. The basic fact remains that we are united under one government of law and not under one single man. No one, not even you, will be that one man. Governor Faubus, who are you to defy men of greater wisdom, the Supreme Court and the United States Constitution?

If the students of Central High School had been left alone, without antagonistic mobs and racist parents, they probably would have integrated peacefully. Leave them alone now, Governor. You have an even bigger job to do. You must now recapture the respect of the world.

Do not forget, Governor Faubus, but for a matter of fate, your skin could be black.

Linda Rinna, Editor

Scenarios evolve at Del Norte meet

By Emily Lundberg

EL CERRITO — At a Del Norte community planning workshop two weeks ago, residents soaked up data presented by an economic consultant and then hammered out concerns, alternatives, and frustrations regarding the future Del Norte BART development. Last Thursday, the Del Norte Planning Process task force synthesized all of this input into four possible scenarios, which will be presented to the public Sept. 6 for discussion.

Originally, developer Charles Oewel's proposal for the 3.17-acre BART site called for a two-story, 20-screen, 3,686-seat cinema complex, a 932-space parking lot (to replace BART's existing lot) and 36,639 square feet of retail space. On the 2.27 acre Mayfair site, a five-story multi-use building was proposed, with a 242-space parking garage, 1,500 square feet of retail space and 208 residential apartment units.

At a public hearing in April, the community came out largely against what was dubbed the "Megatheater." The City Council later announced it would not support "the Oewel proposal as it stands today, because of its size and scale," and agreeing it lacked public support.

Therefore, a community planning process was launched to find what kind of project a majority of the community could support, as well as what kind of project the market could support.

Perceived limitations

However, much of the discussion at both the community planning workshop and at the task force meeting rotated around limitations, not possibilities. Residents voiced concern over the lack of an integrated city-wide plan and dissatis-

faction with adjacent projects and their effect on the Del Norte BART development plan.

Participants wanted to know how large an area they were considering. "It is absolutely mandatory to look at a broader area, at the cross-over," said resident Grant Ricketts. Councilmember and task force Chair Mark Friedman agreed that "We can't do this without a wider vision of what we want to see in the Del Norte Area."

Plans generated several weeks ago by students from the Prince of Wales Architectural Institute suggest moving Del Norte BART parking west of San Pablo Avenue to the site of the future Pacific Development Group project.

That idea has garnered some support, and at the community planning workshop several residents asked whether the PDG plan could be revisited. Redevelopment Program Manager Elisa Tierney answered, "We have a Disposition and Development Agreement, including the site plan, which we are legally bound to."

Despite being told the PDG plan could not be revisited, the audience continually attempted to draw the west side of San Pablo and the PDG site into their conceptualizations for the Del Norte BART development.

Another limitation is Caltrans'

See DEL NORTE on page 16

Market realities, physical constraints shape alternatives

By Emily Lundberg

EL CERRITO — Late last week, the Del Norte task force met to discuss the successes and failures of the Del Norte community planning workshop and to distill the community's input into four different scenarios.

First the task force reviewed Saturday's meeting. Generally, task force members were disappointed with the lack of specificity in the consultants' presentations.

Several task force members said they didn't learn anything new from the economic consultant. And resident Peter Loubal said the transportation expert did not offer enough specific information about traffic problems around the Del Norte site.

The scope of work described to the economic consultant was not especially broad, said Planning Commissioner Letitia Moore. And the transportation consultant was a volunteer who was asked to give an overview, said Mark Friedman.

BART representative Jeff Ordway said he thought the economic and transportation analyses were to give a sense of "what can be and what cannot be." He had worked with Caltrans for years, he said, and contrary to what Saturday's discussion might suggest, he did not find the agency pliable. Caltrans will not allow El Cerrito to limit capacity on San Pablo, he said.

Letitia Moore suggested that the audience's inability to stop talking about the need for an integrated plan "probably means we need a real brainstorming session, which we will probably never get."

"This was the first public meeting after the Prince of Wales visit," said task force member Rosemary Loubal, "and what a lot of people were saying was 'Wow, that Prince of Wales stuff was good stuff, how can we have it here?'"

People need to deal with the fact that the PDG development rules out a major part of the Prince

See SCENARIOS on page 16

■ Letters to the Editor

Grandstanding too much to take

Editor:

"The Del Norte planning effort has not evolved into the type of resident driven process our neighborhood group can support. "Repeated attempts to change the composition of this group were ignored."

"As a result, our group cannot fully endorse the proposed Del Norte planning meetings."

The quotations are from a letter by Rosemary Loubal who is a member of the Task Force.

I honestly think that the Task Force if it accomplishes anything, will go the way of the El Cerrito Plaza. The opposition will criticize the outcome as another "Done deal," another El Cerrito anomaly, "unsupported by the majority of El Cerrito residents" orchestrated by the "biased City Council/Redevelopment Agency."

The "least contentious set of meetings in recent El Cerrito planning history" is unraveling because the Task Force did not approve the residents' choice of the economic analysts. Everything is fine when everything is going their way. At almost every meeting Rosemary Loubal or Peter Loubal will hand out their propaganda. At the start of every meeting Rosemary Loubal will dictate something to the Task Force chair. As an example, last meeting she tried to invalidate Mr. Owel's

due to some statement Mr. Owel made during the Prince Charles' students visit.

I meekly sit at these meetings, because everybody has a right to their opinion. It seems that the Loubal's use their constitutional rights to the fullest. I hear them at the Task Force meetings, I hear them at the RAC meetings, I read their opinions on their numerous letters to the editors of *The Journal* and the *West County Times*.

I volunteered my services to the RAC because as an El Cerrito resident who had maybe eight different addresses the past 25 years because of my military reassignments in the U.S. and overseas I thought I'd help out any way I can for my "retirement" city. I think I picked the wrong committee to serve on. At the last RAC meeting I attended, Peter Loubal was accusing the members of the committee as "people who just do what the Council/Redevelopment wishes" during his usual "residents' time to speak" speech. When I objected to the insinuation, the chair interrupted me by saying "I don't want a

debate." It seems to me that at every meeting the Loubals want to attend, time is afforded them to speak their piece as it is their constitutional right, but when their accusations and innuendoes are rebutted it is not allowed.

One other thing I find particularly odious is the realization that the Del Norte Task Force is being used as a political arena by people that are running for a seat in the City Council at the next election. All the letter writing to the newspapers, all the attacks on the council, all the grandstanding at the meetings I now realize as political jockeying for position.

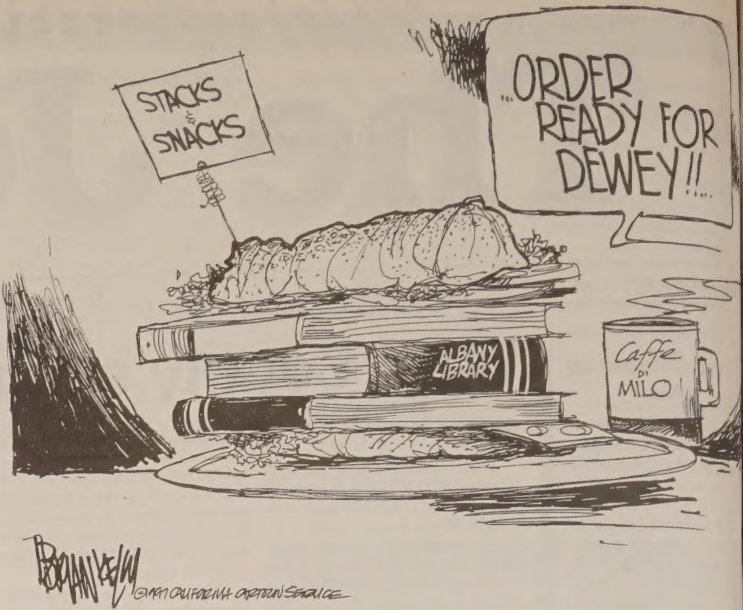
I respectfully offer my resignation to the Redevelopment Advisory Committee and the Del Norte Task Force at your earliest convenience. I would very much like to serve in any capacity on any city committees like crime, library, park. Nothing political.

Frisco R. Del Rosario
El Cerrito

La Force's behavior questionable

Editor:

Recently, there have been



several letters lamenting abusive behavior at the El Cerrito City Council meetings. I agree with the thrust of these letters, especially as regards the abusive behavior of Councilmembers Norma Jellison and Norman La Force. In fact, Mr. La Force's behavior has been so odious that one of our citizens has initiated a recall campaign. Still, something in those letters bothered me. Since I have never seen their authors at a council meeting, how did they know what was going on? Because the present council has taken actions to suppress criticism and stifle citizens' expressions of concern, the meetings are no longer televised. So, that couldn't be the answer. To find out, I probed more deeply.

What I found was truly pathetic. It seems the letter writers really don't have first hand knowledge of the things they are complaining about. Actually, what they are doing is slavishly responding to an appeal from Norman La Force requesting them to write these letters, complain about the criticism being leveled at the council, and at the same time protest the campaign for his recall.

Worse, La Force apparently thinks they are so mindless he even suggests the nature of the text to be used.

Beyond this, La Force attempted to use his environmental credentials as if they forgave all sins. La Force's recall has nothing to do with environmentalism or his position in the Sierra Club. In fact, many local members who are closer to the issue than his Executive Committee buddies strongly favor his recall. But history is full of politicians that cloaked themselves in the white robes of an ostensibly noble cause and then went forward to do great harm.

While objectionable, there is a confirming element in this as well. It seems that, in his attempt to discredit his detractors, Mr. La Force used the same tactics that got him into trouble in the first place; insult, misinformation, hypocrisy and character assassination. By doing so, he unwittingly validates the reason for his recall. Losers never learn.

D. L. Damon
El Cerrito

How to become a volunteer reader

Editor:

Thank you for publishing the fine Community Folk article (21) Clara Rae Genser wrote in connection with the Read-Aloud Volunteer Program, of which I have the pleasure of being Director. I have already received e-mail inquiries from persons who wish to become Readers in the at either Downer or Chavez Elementary Schools. Unfortunately, my telephone number was printed incorrectly. Will you kindly list it as (510) 233-1879, as I am hoping to have many additional Readers continue in the next few weeks. One hundred Readers are needed to provide one-on-one experiences for the 100 children who will be experiencing the joy of hearing picture books twice weekly and receiving their own gift books twice monthly, commencing in October.

Marilyn
El Cerrito

■ Viewpoint

Albany is once again Berkeley's dumping ground

It is very good that you are making Berkeley finally pay attention to its problem of overflowing sanitary sewers. Some other points you may want to raise:

1. The risk from exposure to sewage released into neighborhoods comes not only from hepatitis, E. Coli and other bacteria, but also from HIV which can live in waste water for up to 48 hours. Berkeley and Contra Costa health departments should immediately warn all residents and post notices when these overflows occur. Maybe the State Department of Health Services should conduct an epidemiological study in these neighborhoods to determine if they have a higher incidence of hepatitis, giardia, and other diseases transmitted through waste water. Because kids and pets inevitably walk through this sewage, the exposure to disease organisms is going to be much higher than in other neighborhoods.

2. Building bigger sewer lines is one possible solution. The more commonly used corrective measure for this type of problem is to implement standard sewer line upkeep and maintenance to prevent the inflow of storm water in the first place. A well constructed sanitary sewer line should not be significantly impacted by rainwater. Storm drains carry off the rainwater in a separate system and the flow rate of domestic sewage should be relatively unaffected. Common to older sewer systems, Berkeley has problems with what is known in the sewer business as "infiltration/inflow" (I/I) during rainy weather. These problems

can be corrected by completing a standardized sewer system evaluation and implementing corrective measures. Much I/I comes from illegal roof and yard connections to the sanitary sewer, man hole covers, and broken sewer lines. In Berkeley there are also cross-connections that allow excess flows from the storm sewers to enter the sanitary sewer. These are all common problems and competent public works agencies have ongoing programs to correct them.

Berkeley has not completed a comprehensive standardized sewer system evaluation nor implemented the necessary corrective measures. Part of the problem is that I/I corrective measures require more management effort and expertise than Berkeley is able to muster. For example, after running a smoke test to identify illegal roof drains, the city would have to order the homeowners to disconnect them. It's easier to let a contract for a new sewer line even if the cost is higher. Unfortunately, even with a new sewer line, a storm will come which exceeds its capacity. The best solution is to remove the storm water and have the sanitary sewer function as it is supposed to.

3. It has become clear that our current definitions of 10-year, 25-year and 100-year storms are not accurate. The weather appears to be entering a period of increasingly erratic variations. We can probably expect a greater frequency of 10 and 25 year storms than past statistics would indicate.

4. After leaving a fecal residue in the neighborhoods, most of the

sanitary sewer overflows eventually go into the storm drain system and then into San Francisco Bay. This contaminates shoreline areas with elevated bacteria and other pathogens. This is an additional health risk to beach visitors and to anyone eating marine organisms. The beaches should be posted with health warnings every time a Berkeley or Albany sewer system overflows.

5. When overflows occur on Portland, Berkeley does not provide notice to the Office of Emergency Services as required by Section 13271 of the State Water Code. It is also not clear that these overflows are addressed by orders issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board and so Berkeley may be violating Section 13261. Unfortunately the board has been moving at a glacial pace to address sewer overflow problems by Berkeley and other Bay communities. Perhaps because of Berkeley's "environmental" reputation, the board overlooks its transgressions. For years, Berkeley Public Works dumped street sweepings down the storm drain. These sweepings contain auto residue including toxic metals like lead, copper, and zinc. These were all flushed directly into the Bay making Berkeley one of the worst polluters. The board couldn't be bothered to take an enforcement action.

It is ironic that a city chock full of holier-than-thou environmentalists is a cause of major environmental damage. Hold their feet to the fire: maybe they will clean up.

Phantom of the Sewer



Until its recent demolition, the house was a survivor amid surrounding development.

Unhappy ending to story of the 'holdout house'

Editor:

As a child my favorite book was the story of a little house in the country that becomes surrounded by development, so much so that the little house can no longer be seen any more. The "country" becomes a city, with dense, tall buildings, shops, an elevated train system, etc. The little house itself is eventually put on wheels and carted off to another location in the countryside where it lives happily ever after. We could almost have written this children's story in El Cerrito recently, but it didn't have such a happy ending. Just yesterday, the historic old house built around the turn of the century (I believe) that stood in front of the Home Depot on San Pablo Avenue (near the Richmond/El Cerrito border) was bulldozed to the ground. It was the only real element of interest on the west side of San Pablo for blocks, with its beautiful beveled glass windows and curved front porch balustrades: it is now a pile of rubble.

The house in the children's book, although it was swallowed up by a city, at least was swallowed up by a functional city. The little house in El Cerrito was surrounded by a huge "big box" development and acres of asphalt parking lots — hardly a "sustainable" city. Twenty years from now when Home Depot has long since gone out of business and their huge, ugly warehouse sits deserted on the site what besides a huge asphalt lot and big unusable building will the west side of San Pablo Avenue have to say for itself?

I know that city officials will respond to this letter by claiming they did "everything they could" to save the old house. Why then, despite their assurances to me that "every effort" was made to save it, did none of the citizens in this area ever hear about this issue — to my knowledge, there was no "press" about it whatsoever. If the city truly wanted to save the

house, why did they not appeal to the public for help? And in the first place, why does El Cerrito not have a policy (like Oakland for example) that would preserve these old homes as historic places?

No wonder there is no "there" here in El Cerrito as the Prince of Wales Institute recently pointed out as one of El Cerrito's crucial problems. I think it sad too that Home Depot itself (which, according to city officials was "gracious" enough to wait for the city to try to find a home for the house before tearing it down) did not value it enough to realize its historical significance to the area and to try to find some sort of re-use for it—perhaps for offices.

Now Home Depot's hideous, huge parking lot will probably only grow bigger, even though they can't fill the enormous parking lot they already have. Some of the local citizens I have talked to since the house was bulldozed evidently had dreams that maybe that house could have become home to the El Cerrito Historical Society (which evidently had no money to purchase the house) and that similar old houses farther south on San Pablo that are probably also about to be bulldozed could have been moved nearby as a sort of Preservation Park (like Oakland's). But none of those people or the members of Sustainable El Cerrito knew that the house was going to be torn down. Why was this whole issue kept secret from those of us who might have tried to find a way to save the house?

It is this kind of "non-sustainable" thinking that is getting El Cerrito into so much trouble these days. If El Cerrito keeps letting "big box" development run the north end of the city, this area will never be the kind of livable, walkable, sustainable community that recent public discussions seem to indicate its citizens want.

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Richmond

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Albany's watering holes,
installment 3

Where everybody knows their team's name

By Greg Hugunin

So a guy walks into Bear's carrying a lobster. Really. He walks into Bear's holding a lobster out in front of him, and at the time (11:21 a.m. bar time, to be exact, meaning that if it takes 15 minutes to get where you're going, you will be there at 11:21) the Raiders are losing 10-0. It is not a good thing for the Raiders to be losing 10-0 — after all, this is the first game of the season, and they have a new quarterback, a new coach, a new starting running back and the most valuable player from last year's Super Bowl — but yet here they are, losing on a gray day in Memphis.

Patrons, perhaps a dozen, cluster around a set of televisions at the far end of the bar, sipping orange juice (or orange juice-related concoctions) and watching Tennessee Oilers' running back Eddie George as he mows through the Raider defense with a steady, unrelenting tenacity.

"Get him! Get him! Stuff him!" one man cries, so fierce — hey, this is football, baby — one might think he was capable of leaping into the TV and stuffing Eddie George himself. As for the man with the lobster, well, he is outside now tending a group of barbecues, for today is an away game, and the tailgate party is right here.

Halftime comes and goes, and the orange juice keeps flowing, and now it is 13-0, and Good God, Eddie George looks unstoppable. One man is unperturbed by this — "Football ain't my deal, I'm into horse racing," he says — yet for others, those in silver and black T-shirts who mark their exit from the bathroom with a quick glance toward the TV, 13-0 just isn't what they were looking for. Then it happens. Tim Brown — The Raider — makes an out-and-out move so sweet the corner back is probably still standing there as you read this, wondering what happened.

Shortly thereafter, it happens again — Brown catches one over the middle and just takes the ball to paydirt. Patrons are screaming, pounding on the bar — in some cases nearly assaulting one another — and it's 14-13, and baby, this is Raider Football.

To understand Bears is to understand 'The Ave.' (and yes, there has indeed been a San Pablo Avenue stroll, a smaller, boozier, somewhat less-official affair than its Solano Avenue counterpart) and to understand Albany itself: what it was and, in many cases, still is.

With a clientele — and an owner — whose time in Albany bars dates back to the 1970s and beyond and perhaps the only bartending staff in town which can boast of three Albany High School graduates, Bear's



If you want to visit
Raiderville,
all you have
to do is head
to Bears on
any given
Sunday to
hang out
with the 'Bad
Boys.'

Greg Hugunin

is about as local as gets.

According to current owner/bartender Gary "Bear" Manuel, the history of Bear's, formerly known as Quick's Little Alaska and, long ago, as Felix's, is a thing which should be traced not through the building itself but rather from a bar scene dating to the 1970s.

At the time, the place to be was Gene Mann's Solano Club, which had three pool tables, shuffleboard, foosball and live music, and the Solano Club, according to Manuel, "was just the bar, that was the happening spot." In 1980, though, the Solano Club closed, and Mann took his show on the road and bought San Pablo Avenue's M&L Club.

Manuel himself was a bartender at the M&L — a member of Albany's original "dirty dozen," who, in the 1980s, flew to Los Angeles to see their beloved Raiders — and when the M&L closed as well, Manuel found himself unemployed for as long as it took the owner of Quick's Little Alaska up the street to offer him a job.

"I was out of work for one day, and the next day I came down here and I've been working ever since," Manuel says. Also, it so happens that much of the M&L's crowd made their way down San Pablo as well, and though Quick's may also be gone (Manuel and his two partners took over approximately a year and a half ago) the tradition of Albany's old-time bars lives on.

Today, Bear's is the bar where they tell stories about Bud Dorn, who Manuel alternately describes as "one of the original flim-flam men" and as weighing "a hundred pounds soaking

wet." It is a bar where they remember "Big Lou" and Jerry Patterson, a bar where a customer, walking through the door, is asked who was the greatest bartender in the history of the Avenue, and responds, without hesitation, "Gus De Maria!" "You can't have a story about bars on 'The Ave.'" without Gus De Maria," Manuel says of the legendary Gus, known for delivering phrases such as "two bananas" (two bucks) and "Happy days" (you just bought Gus a shot) during his many decades on San Pablo. Home to the Albany chapter of the Bay Area Dirtballs — a group which also dates back to the M&L days, and which boasts of its own blood bank and a toys for tots program — the old-time, "working man's club" tradition of Albany bars lives on at Bear's.

It is a bar where, at any given time, a half-dozen locals line up talking to one another down the length of the bar, a bar where old friends pop in and out throughout the afternoon, and where people come after years out of town to find out what everyone's been up to.

It is a dart bar, and a racetrack patron bar, a barbecue bar and a just plain good old bar. But, most importantly, it is a Raider bar, maybe The Raider Bar, and from the innumerable pictures and other bits of Raider history to the poster on the wall which reads "Real men wear black," it is obvious that, if you choose to root for

Oakland's own, you will not be without company here.

"I personally like both teams," says Manuel of the other Bay Area team, the much-despised (at least in Raiderville) 49ers. "I catch a lot of flak for that because 80 percent of the customers here are Raider fans." That's right, even if the also-much-despised Dallas Cowboys were playing the 49ers, Manuel says, you might find patrons split on who they were urging toward victory, for football, at its core, is as much about hating your team's enemies as loving the team itself.

And although the Raiders have, in some ways, made themselves difficult to love (moving to Los Angeles, personal seat licenses, and choking in general over the last few years), it is an adoration which runs deeply, one which is not easily shaken.

So a guy walks into Bear's carrying twenty pounds of meat — ribs, beef, lobster, a veritable feast — and this happens somewhere around 1:00 p.m. bar time, and hardly anyone has noticed.

The Oilers' Eddie George — that bastard, can no one stop him? — has just powered for a 29-yard touchdown run, and there are only two minutes left, and the Raiders are down by seven. This is the last drive. Tim Brown catches a pass inside the Oiler 30. "Show me the money, baby!"

See BEARS on page 9

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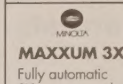
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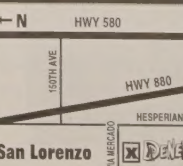
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■ Police Reports

Unauthorized dismantling at school

By K. Osborn

ALBANY — At about 4 a.m. on Sept. 1 officers responded to reports of a loud crash and a car alarm sounding on the 800 block of Jackson Street. Two vehicles had been hit and the car causing the accident, a white car, was observed leaving the scene. Officers searched the area and located the vehicle on the 600 block of Madison Street. The driver, an Albany man, 22, was arrested for DUI and hit and

run.

• At about 9 p.m. on Aug. 24 an Albany High School official saw two white male juveniles attempting to steal the monument, a 200-pound rock inscribed by a previous class, which sits in front of the school building. They abandoned their "prize" near Thousand Oaks and Ramona avenues. The next problem was getting the monument back to its proper place.

• On Aug. 21 a resident on the 1000 block of Ordway Avenue reported someone threw fireworks and a smoke bomb on his front porch about 15 minutes earlier.

• On Aug. 25 a woman reported that while at Taco Bell she observed a subject described as a Hispanic

male juvenile, 14 to 15 years old, wearing a white wrap on his head, an olive green shirt and blue slacks, steal an Albany boy's Tack, seven-speed, blue and green bike. The thief was last seen going north on the BART path south of Dartmouth Street.

• On Aug. 25 a resident on the 900 block of Fillmore Street reported someone had hit his garage door and wall partition. His neighbor had seen the accident and provided the license plate number and a description of the vehicle and driver. Police are investigating.

• On Aug. 26 officers contacted a transient Oakland man who was in front of the Royal Cafe asking people for money. He was found to have outstanding vehicle code violation warrants from Berkeley and Albany and was arrested.

• On Aug. 27 a resident on the 900 block of Pierce Street reported she saw a red sports car in front of her residence that appeared to have been stripped during the early morning hours Thered Honda Civic, was found to have been stolen in Union City. The owner was notified.

• On Aug. 27 a resident on the

See ALBANY on page 9

DUI checkpoint leads to arrests

By Emily Lundberg

EL CERRITO — A San Pablo man and a Vallejo female were arrested for driving a stolen vehicle on Tamalpais and Fairview Drive on Aug. 24 at 5 a.m.

• A residence on the 5800 block of El Dorado was burglarized on Aug. 28. The burglar gained access through a bathroom window.

• On Aug. 23 on the 2500 block of Tamalpais, someone broke into a Ford Explorer, stealing cash, credit cards, and a portable CD player. A bicycle was stolen from the 11450 block of San Pablo on Aug. 20. On Aug. 21, someone pried the lock of a Honda parked on the 900 block of Kearney, stealing the stereo and several cassette tapes.

• On Aug. 25 between 7 p.m. and 8 p.m., someone smashed the window of a Ford Escort parked on the 1600 block of Kearney and stole the stereo.

• On Aug. 24, an African American male and female, between the ages of 18 and 30, entered a gas station on the 11600 block of San

Pablo, took a can of bug spray from the store's shelf and sprayed the clerk in the eyes. They then stole money from the cash register. On Aug. 19 at 9 p.m., two men entered a restaurant on the 11260 block of San Pablo and stole cash from an unattended register.

• A Richmond male who left Safeway Aug. 21 with items not paid for was arrested for petty theft. An Oakland male was arrested at 10 a.m. on Aug. 17 after leaving Target with items not paid for. A Richmond female was arrested on Aug. 19 after leaving Target with items not paid for. On Aug. 21, an Oakland female was arrested after leaving Safeway with items not paid for. On Aug. 27, an Oakland man was arrested after leaving Target with items not paid for.

• A San Pablo man was found to be in possession of methamphetamine when pulled over on Garvin and San Pablo on Aug. 27 at 1:50 a.m.

• A day care center on the 1400 block of Norvell St. was broken into

See EL CERRITO on page 9

El Cerrito High's year begins in upbeat fashion

By Peter Orne

It began with a trickle. Robert Johnson, a freshman from Richmond, walked up the empty front steps of El Cerrito High School at 7:30 a.m., one hour before the opening of the new school year.

"Do you know where the main office is?" he asked a reporter. Soon, the walkways and the hallways of the high school began to fill with the chatter of new and returning students. Many hugged each other or clasped hands.

"I really am glad to be back here," said Chrishara Holmes, 17, a senior from El Cerrito. "The summer was boring, and this keeps me occupied." Holmes studied geometry in summer school and worked as a telemarketer.

"I'm going to be on the yearbook committee this year, and I want to run track," she said.

"I wasted the first half of summer," said Josiah Woodson, 16, of

El Cerrito. "But then I went to the American Baptist Youth Conference in Indiana, and that was great." Woodson plays first trumpet in the jazz band.

Delia Rimer, a senior from Richmond, took acting and film classes at Barnard College in New York over the summer. "This year I'm taking AP lit, calculus, history, art, psychology, French, and I'm applying to Sarah Lawrence and Hampshire colleges."

Rimer is already showing symptoms of senioritis. "I'm a senior," she said, "and I just want to get out of here."

According to Principal Paul Daniels, the 1425 students at El Cerrito High can look forward to many physical improvements to the campus. "We've painted the main building on the inside and put in a new intercom system," he said. "Every room has now been wired for computers."

"Our next step is to get the equip-

ment to go with it. The school board voted \$80,000 to do that, so that's in place. Several rooms had separating curtains but now there are solid walls to cut down on the noise."

Daniels hopes to submit a grant proposal to Bay Area School Reform seeking funds for special projects, such as a school-to-career center.

The school will continue with block scheduling this year, which divides the day into three 90-minute periods and a shorter fourth period.

"It's wonderful for a science class, because of the labs," said Ted Diebenbrock, a chemistry teacher. "We can do more prep before and more follow-up afterwards, and we can fit a whole year's worth of material into a half-year period of time."

But student reaction to block scheduling is mixed. "The complaint with most people is that the classes are too long," said Jules Goldman, a senior from Kensing-

ton. "The teachers are very nice considering it's one and a half hours with the same students...They try to know the students, how they are, how they are."

"For the classes that I don't like it's pretty hard," said Rimer. "For the classes I like, it's fine. Teachers keep on making the activities different."

As the new school year began some younger students were wondering out the find the main office for student office.

"I want to be student body president next spring," said Pern Williams, a senior. "I want people to learn about different cultures."

"At lunch, the blacks sit right here, whites right here, Chinese right here. There are only a few students like me that kind of wander in the crowd."

"Most kids here at El Cerrito High look at me and say, 'You live out in Berkeley a lot, don't you?'"



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Fire station dedication tops birthday celebration

By Kimberly Lisagor

EL CERRITO — The city celebrated its 80th birthday last Thursday with the dedication of a new fire station on Arlington Boulevard. Station No. 72 is the city's first new public building in over 30 years.

"It's a pretty nice birthday present for the city to have a new building," said Mayor Norma Jellison. "This is something we can all be proud of."

Jellison said the former fire station badly needed modernization.

There were no separate facilities for female firefighters. The garage was too small to fit most of the fire engines. And the station did not meet earthquake retrofitting specifications — a particular concern since the building is located on a fault line.

Firefighter Tom McCullagh, who joined the department eight months ago, said he appreciates the modern facilities.

"Everyone likes to come and work in a new fire station," he said.

The dedication ceremony was

attended by 11 former El Cerrito mayors, who joined other guests in marveling at old photographs of the town that were donated by the Historical Society.

Pictures from the early 1900s depicted El Cerrito in its early days, when occupants of the city's few buildings complained of the dust kicked up by carriages traveling on the unpaved main roads.

One photograph featured an adobe house on San Pablo Road at Cerrito Creek in 1839, decades before the city was even founded.

Though the building burned down in 1956, one adobe brick remains displayed at the El Cerrito Plaza shopping center as a memento.

Former mayor Richard Spellman, who lived in the city for 36 years, said the new fire station is a symbol of the city's progress, and that it should be a source of community pride.

"I'm always glad to see the city keep pace with the times," he said, noting that El Cerrito's financial situation has not always allowed for structural improvements.

"It shows today's residents what can be done," said Spellman, the city's mayor from 1976 to 1977.

The last public building built in El Cerrito was the community center, dedicated in 1965. Even City Hall does not have its own building — administrative offices are located in a trailer.

"Replacing old facilities is one of the toughest issues in city government," said Supervisor Jim Rodgers, who presented the mayor with a plaque to commemorate the occasion.

Jellison said the fire station is an important contribution because it will continue to serve the city in the future.

Funding for the \$1.4-million station came largely from a half-cent



Jeff Lindquist

Celebrants made their way to the new and larger facility on Arlington Boulevard.



All mayors of El Cerrito still living were on hand for the dedication and a prime photo opportunity.

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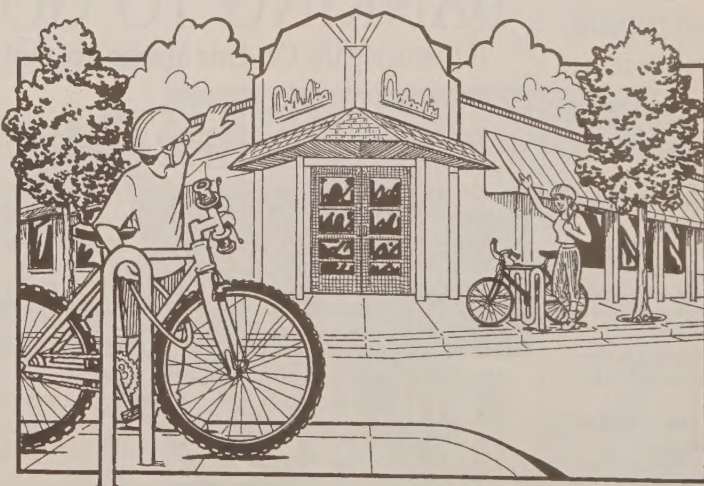


Jeff Lindquist

Mayor Norma Jellison does cake-cutting honors.

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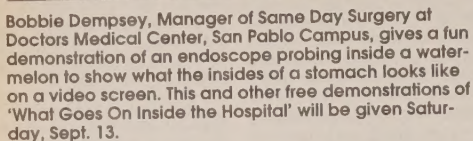
- What:** The City of Albany is installing new bicycle racks! They are U-shaped and forest green. Two sizes of bicycle racks, single and double, are being installed. Bikes are to be locked perpendicular to the racks, as shown in the illustration.
- When:** Beginning in September 1997 it will be more convenient to bicycle to your favorite destinations in Albany's commercial areas.
- Where:** Along Solano and San Pablo Avenues. Racks are located at bus stops, to make it easier for commuters to leave their cars at home.



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The first Living Well Community Health and Safety Fair will be held

Saturday, Sept. 13 at Doctors Medical Center San Pablo Campus, 2000 Vale Rd. in San Pablo from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The event, sponsored in part by The Journal, is free, open to the community and geared for all ages. KTVU TV news anchor Dennis Richmond will be master of ceremonies at the event.

Highlights include free blood pressure screenings, osteoporosis screenings, children's fingerprinting and photo IDs, hearing consultations, immunization information, emergency vehicle dis-

plays, police canine demonstrations, entertainment, refreshments and chances to win prizes, including a to the Monterey Hyatt and Monterey Bay Aquarium.

There will be guided tours of the remodeled hospital, including a visit to an actual operating room.

The fair is a celebration of community health and safety and a chance to learn services at the San Pablo Campus, part of the recent merger of the former Doctors Hospital in Pinole and Brookside Hospital.

For more information and a schedule of events call 235-7006, ext. 2627.

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Continued from front page

and many others, were in favor of the move, Arkansas Governor Orval E. Faubus was adamantly opposed, and on Sept. 2, the night before school was to start, he sent out National Guard troops to turn the students away.

The students — who became known as the "Little Rock Nine" — would not, in fact, enter the school until Sept. 23, the day when 1,000 white protesters threatened to overwhelm police, and the students were quietly moved out a back door. On Sept. 25 the Little Rock Nine would enter again, escorted by 1,000 members of the Army's 101st Airborne Division, who, in an unprecedented development, were sent to Arkansas by President Dwight Eisenhower.

"It was beyond my comprehension that kids couldn't go to school together," says Levitsky, who, at the time, had just returned from a year overseas and saw newspapers bearing accounts of students faced with mobs of segregationists.

"When I saw pictures of that, it was something I could not fathom, that as a 17-year-old you just couldn't go to school. Mostly what I had was enormous compassion for the students who were being humiliated by this fat white man (Faubus) with dogs and chains. 'We don't want you here.' What a statement. 'We don't want you here.' How utterly terrifying."

Encouraged by her teacher, Ralph Stone, Levitsky did not take the matter lying down, though, and did what a good writer does: she wrote. Knocking off what proved a rather easy

piece (the best ones always are). Levitsky published an open letter to Governor Faubus in which she spoke of the successful integration of Albany High, and reminded the governor that, "but for a matter of fate, your skin could be black."

"I don't remember thinking it was a courageous thing to do, nor do I remember thinking it was a gutsy thing to do," Levitsky says, adding that, at the time, Albany High School was perhaps 15 percent black, and had a black student president. "Now that I look back on it, it seems gutsy to me. I was just a kid from Albany and I had not experienced (racism), but I knew what Faubus was doing was wrong."

When the editorial first hit school newsmagazines, Levitsky says, the most common reaction was silence. 'My recollection is that people were quiet. I don't remember 'good job' or 'that was terrific.' Mostly it seemed that it was quiet.' After the Tribune — and newspapers across the country — picked the editorial up, though, others, who apparently looked her name up in the phone book, would give the young newspaper editor a bigger piece of their minds than she ever expected.

She would receive phone calls from strangers who called her names that do not bear repeating — "where those people came from I don't know," Levitsky says — and, in perhaps the most terrifying development, she walked outside one day and realized, from the wooden cross planted on her lawn, that these people knew where she lived. Yet, instead of anger, her reaction, in a strikingly human moment, was one of guilt — a 17-year-old majorette, raised in a traditional Italian family, who didn't

want her parents to be disturbed by the attention she'd drawn.

"I remember picking it up and feeling ashamed, and not wanting my parents to see it because it was going to cause trouble, and debating whether or not, when that happens, you should call the police," Levitsky says. (She did not.)

And though neither the editorial, nor anything else, was enough to change the governor's mind (Faubus closed all the city's high schools in 1958 in a last-ditch attempt to head off desegregation), the drive toward a more color-blind society went on. Now, the events surrounding the integration of Central High School will be celebrated beginning Sept. 19 in Little Rock, when another former Arkansas Governor, Bill Clinton, will meet, among others, the woman who decided to throw her two cents in on one of the most bitter debates in U.S. history.

Ever restless, Levitsky, did not end her attempts to make the world a better place with her high school newspapering career. After earning a degree in journalism at San Jose State, bearing three sons and spending time as a copy writer for KTVU, she also served as, among other things, head of the Community Service Division of the Berkeley National Red Cross,

and, later, with the non-profit International Medical Relief Fund, delivering medical supplies to war-torn Salvador.

In more recent years, Levitt's attentions have turned closer to home where she serves as Executive Director of the East Bay Depot for Creative Reuse. Yet in looking at the state of things in 1997, she still finds the United States a nation of inequity with a new set of battles to be

"It looks like we're going to lose out civil rights in the economic sector and the academic sector," says Levitsky, who points to the absence of affirmative action as a sign that things are going in the wrong direction. "On one hand, what it says to me is that we are a nation that still does not understand how horrible it is for people to be denied and denied and to have to fight on every level. To fight so hard all the time, you don't have energy," Levitsky says.

And, as far as past victories go, points not to herself but to the young black students who walked into the mouth of unmitigated hell in 1957, one of whom, the following spring, became Central High School's first black graduate. Those nine students had the eyes of the world on them, and, as Levitsky says, "gutsy. That's the real courage."

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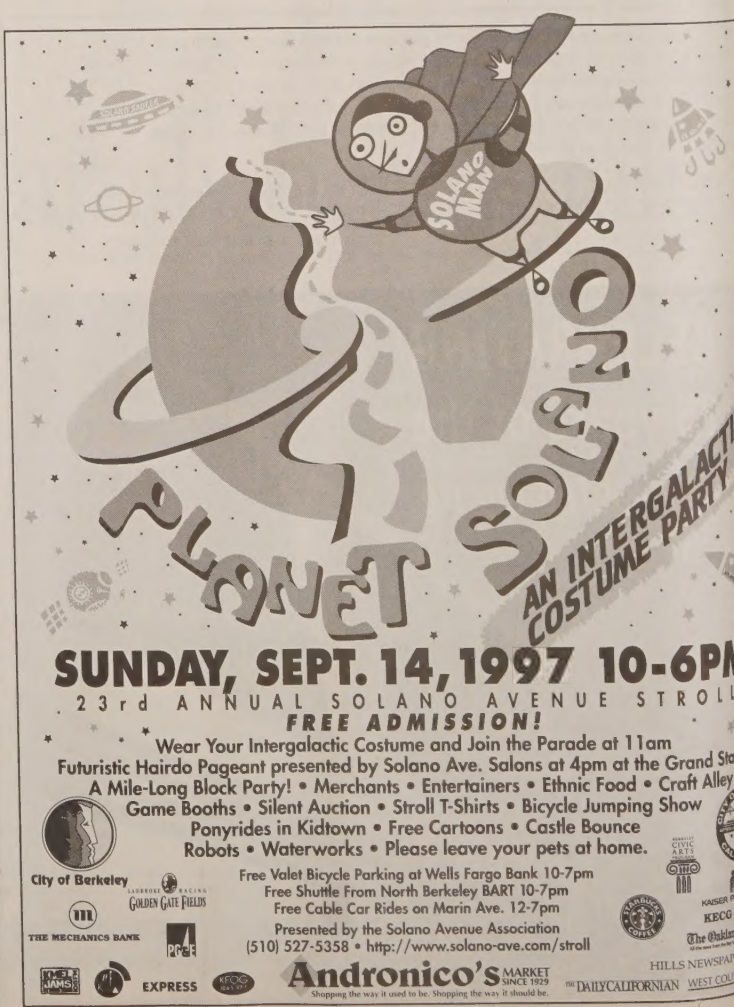
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Habitot Children's Museum's

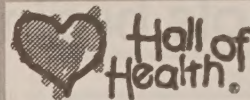
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Habitot Children's Museum is scheduled to open in Berkeley by the end of this year. Sales of Advance Family and Advance Preschool Memberships (\$50 each) help build the exhibit fund. Call (510) 528-6319 for more information.



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Beyond crisis: The challenge of improved district finances

Welcome back to another school year. This first West County School Watch of the new school year leads with an opinion piece on district finances. The opinions expressed are wholly my own.

The good news from Sacramento is that our district, along with schools throughout the state, will receive substantial new funds in the state's current year budget. The recently adopted state budget provides new general fund money for the district in addition to new funds for ongoing projects like class size reduction in elementary school classrooms.

According to Kenneth Hall, President of School Services California, "... the budget provides dramatic growth in new discretionary or unrestricted funding to local school agencies ... local agencies will receive over

\$1.6 billion on a cash basis to expend as they see fit for their highest priorities." For the 1997-98 year this could be over \$4.5 million for our district.

The challenge of making do with more rather than less is a new one for our district but may be even more daunting. When times are lean, the strategy is simple and straightforward: everyone cuts back. But the availability of new funds to invest in our schools and children's education requires a well-thought out plan based in a broad consensus on key priorities for the district.

The new dollars need to be allocated wisely, funding areas of growth or restoring previous cuts that are essential to our district's educational program.

Usually a budget would provide that type of road map or, at minimum, the process of

producing the budget would generate the type of discussion and planning necessary to generate these priorities. However, the board's existing budget was adopted with scant discussion.

Without exaggeration, over the last few years our school board has spent less public time adopting its \$150 million annual budget than many PTA boards spend on budgets many times smaller. This year, the board spent about a half-hour analyzing and adopting the budget over two sessions.

The budget process fell victim to a kind of chicken and egg situation: The board was told the budget would not be real until final numbers were available from the state. Now that these numbers are becoming available, the board has no basis, no framework, to guide it as it determines how to spend these new funds.

There is another way to plan. It

takes more time but yields much better returns. The board needs to develop, in partnership with concerned parents and community members and other stakeholders, key priorities and then a budget as a function of these priorities. The basic lesson we need to learn is that the more the public understands and "buys-in" to our schools and the process that governs them, the better off we all are.

School site councils lack MRAD involvement

Generally, the district's track record engaging the public in financial decisions regarding our schools is not good.

One year ago this month our school board went unanimously on record asking that school site councils be involved in decision making regarding the use of Maintenance and Recreation

Assessment District (MRAD) funds at their site. The logic was that the school site council because of its roots in the school and community would be best qualified to make these decisions.

A year later, implementation of the board's action is spotty at best. Most site councils have yet to be consulted on this and those that have were asked to hurriedly approve a pre-determined list of projects.

Bond measure for new middle school and capital facility renovation

There is a growing consensus that the district desperately needs a new middle school in Richmond and funding for long-delayed capital improvement projects at many sites. Funding for these projects will require public approval of a bond measure which will need to pass by a two-thirds vote. The case for the bond will need to be powerful and developed on the basis of significant public input. If the plan is to put the bond measure on a spring or summer '98 ballot, planning should begin now to insure full public involvement in this process.



West County School Watch

By Glen Price

The challenge now is to decide that whether it's the annual budget, use of school site MRAD funds, or the development of a bond measure, the more we reach out, the better we are.

Back to School Festival is Saturday

This Saturday, Sept. 6, the district hosts the annual Back to School Festival at Nicholl Park in Richmond (on MacDonald Ave. between 30th and 34th). The event will feature a wide variety of fun and entertainment as well as information on district programs and departments. Bring the whole family.

Albany schools begin new year Sept. 8

The Albany Public Schools 1997/98 school year begins on Monday, Sept. 8. Parents and students are asked to review the following information. School site offices will be closed Sept. 5, 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Registration Information

Kindergarten through Eighth Grade: Children who have not previously attended Albany elementary schools (grades 6-8) should be registered at the appropriate school office as soon as possible. School offices are open for registration starting Aug. 21, between the hours of 9 a.m. and noon and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Call the school before coming in to register: Cornell 559-6510, Marin 559-6520, Vista-MacGregor Primary 559-6650, Albany Middle 559-6540, Albany High 559-6550. Children must be age 5 by Dec. 2 to enroll in kindergarten and age 6 by Dec. 2 to register as first graders. Proof of birth date (original birth certificate or baptismal certificate) must be presented for students in kindergarten and the first grade. Registering your child at the closest school may not guarantee assignment to that school. The District may need to assign pupils outside of present school boundaries in order to house the expected enrollment increase.

der to house the expected enrollment increase.

Parents not residing in Albany who are interested in enrolling new students in Albany schools must apply for enrollment at the District Office. Although space is limited, out of district applicants for grades K-12 will be placed on a first-come, first-served basis, if classroom space is available.

Ninth through 12th Grade: For students new to Albany High School, registration will be held in the school office, 603 Key Route Blvd., from 8 a.m. to noon, and 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. starting Aug. 21.

New registrants must be accompanied by a parent and have current immunization records, transcripts from previous schools, and residence verification.

The first day of school is Monday, Sept. 8. New preregistered and continuing students in grades 9-12 should arrive no later than 8 a.m. on Sept. 8 to check the homeroom seats that will be posted in the main hall.

Registration requires three types of documentation. No registration will be accepted unless all information is complete. The documentation is complete. The documentation is complete.

See YEAR, page 11

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El Cerrito

Continued from page 4
On Aug. 27 at 1:15 a.m. The burglars fled when, after breaking a window, an alarm was activated.

On Aug. 25, someone entered a residence on the 8900 block of Lassen St. through an open bedroom window. The suspect ransacked the bedroom and fled. Nothing was stolen.

The battery of a car parked on the 5300 block of Cypress was stolen between Aug. 23 and 24. A vacuum was stolen from a car parked on the 5300 block of San Pablo on Aug. 24.

Between Aug. 23 and 24, someone attempted to steal two trucks parked on the 5900 block of Jordan Avenue. On Aug. 24, an '80 Toyota Corolla was stolen from the 5700 block of Lassen St. On Aug. 25, a '90 Olds was stolen from in the 800 block of Kearney St. On Aug. 22, a '76 Cadillac Seville was stolen from the 3100 block of School St. On Aug. 21, a '80 Toyota Celica was stolen from a parking lot on the 10900 block of San Pablo Avenue.

Between 9:30 p.m. on Aug. 30 and 2:45 a.m. on Aug. 31, ECPD and ACPD conducted a DUI checkpoint on San Pablo between Hill and Cutting. A total of 922 cars passed, of

which 44 drivers were screened. Nine people were arrested for driving under the influence. One of these drivers was found to be in possession of a concealed weapon; one was arrested for evading arrest; two were arrested for operating a stolen vehicle; and one was arrested for an outstanding warrant.

Someone shattered the front window of a '95 Honda Accord on Aug. 29, while it was parked on the 1700 block of Liberty St.

On Aug. 29, a '90 Chevy Blazer was stolen from the 2000 block of Key Blvd.

On Aug. 17, someone shot a BB gun at a window on the 100050 block of San Pablo.

On Aug. 28 at 3:30 p.m., someone stole a wallet from a woman's purse while she was in a restaurant on the 7500 block of Fairmount.

A Richmond man was found to be in possession of stereo equipment missing serial numbers when pulled over on the corner of Garvin and San Pablo at 2 a.m. on Aug. 27.

On Aug. 25, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., someone pried open the living room window of a residence on the 2500 block of Edwards Ave. The suspect stole a hand gun, jewelry, cash, clothing and stereo equipment and exited through the front door.

Albany

Continued from page 4

1200 block of Marin Avenue reported someone stole tools from the back of his truck. He gave police the description of a car he saw leaving the area.

On Aug. 27 several residents on the 500 block of Pierce Street reported their vehicles had been vandalized. Four were parked in a security parking garage and one was on the street.

On Aug. 27 a Richmond woman reported she had locked her bike in front of the Bank of America on Solano Avenue while she went inside. When she returned 15 minutes later her bike was gone.

On Aug. 28 a resident on the 900 block of Washington Avenue reported that his white '87 Volkswagen, which he had parked in front of his house the previous night, was gone.

On Aug. 28 a boy reported someone stole his bike was parked outside the 7-Eleven on Solano Avenue. A witness who gave a brief description of the thief was gone when officers arrived.

On Aug. 28 a resident reported that someone stole her baby stroller while it was in front of a residence on the 1100 block of Ordway Street.

On Aug. 29 officers stopped a gray Subaru for speeding on Marin Avenue near Talbot Avenue. The driver, a Berkeley man, was found to have a suspended driver's license and an outstanding UC Police vehicle code warrant. He was arrested, cited and released.

On Aug. 29 officers responded to reports of a man and woman fighting near Cleveland and Solano avenues. Officers contacted the couple and the man, from Berkeley, was found to have an outstanding \$2,500 warrant from Berkeley for drunk driving. He was arrested, cited and released.

At about 2 a.m. on Aug. 30 officers responded to the Club Mallard on San Pablo Avenue regarding a man who refused to leave. Officers arrested the El Cerrito man for trespassing. He was cited and released when sober.

On Aug. 30 a resident on the 500 block of Kains Avenue reported someone stole his wallet from the glove box of his unlocked blue '83 Chevrolet.

On Aug. 30 a gas station on the 900 block of San Pablo reported a man was bothering customers and asking for money. He went across the street to another gas station and continued the activity. Officers contacted the man, from Texas. He was arrested, cited and released.

rested, cited and released.

On Aug. 30 officers responded to reports of a possible fight brewing outside the Albany Bowl. A large group of Hispanic males from Richmond were arguing and it appeared to be escalating. Officers arrested two men, in their mid-20s. One was arrested for battery and one for petty theft. The rest of the group dispersed when the officers arrived.

On Aug. 31 Golden Gate Fields reported it had detained two people for attempting to use a stolen credit card. Officers arrested an Oakland woman for outstanding warrants from the Alameda County Sheriff's Office for possession of fraudulent cards, burglary and fraudulent alteration of credit cards. She was cited and transported to the Berkeley jail.

During the week of Aug. 24 officers fingerprinted five people at their request, towed seven cars, responded to 30 false alarms, attended to four lost or deceased animals, assisted eight people who were locked out of their house or car and responded to seven reports of barking dogs. In the domestic arena officers intervened in four domestic disputes, one standby, 21 civil disturbances and 30 civil assists. Firefighter/paramedics responded to one fire call, one hazardous materials call and 15 medical emergencies.

Bears

Continued from page 3

someone says. The Raiders move further, draw two penalties, and it is fourth and goal from the 16-yard-line, 22 seconds left, and the time to do something is now.

It happens. The pass goes over the middle, and Brown, taking a hit which might have snapped a lesser man in half, somehow hangs on to score the touchdown.

Patrons embrace one another, swarming about like bacchanals, and one man cries "I believe!" They slap high fives, they stream out onto San Pablo, and bartender Max Palmer, with a raise of the eyebrows, says there is a second meaning to "silver and black" which is related to the gray hairs Raider fans have acquired after years of last-minute comebacks and defeats. Brown's touchdown represents no victory, unfortunately, for the game will go into overtime, and, well, let's just say that the channel will change before the winning field goal makes it through the uprights.

But, as someone says afterwards, "It's going to be a long season, boys and girls," and they will be here rooting, always loyal, for better or for worse.

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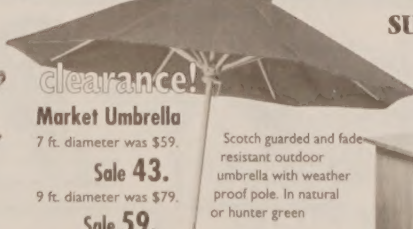
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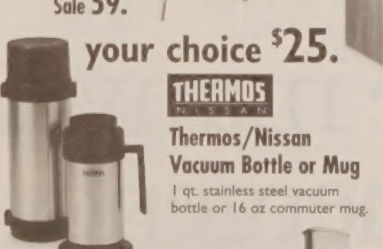
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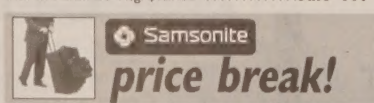
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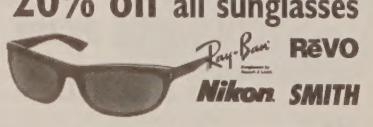
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501 Shrink to Fit Reg. \$30. **24⁹⁰**
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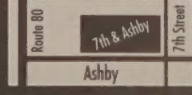
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Newest chamber member: Patti and Steve's Auto Care



Partners Patti Critchfield and Steve Kahn have 38 combined years of experience.

The only business in Albany to have the honor of receiving the Green Business award for its environmentally sound business area is Patti and Steve's Auto Care, a business that caters to Hondas and Acuras, located at 1057 Eastshore Highway.

Business partners Patti Critchfield and Steve Kahn have 38 combined years of experience between them, having worked the Albany area at different locations before they met. They found themselves referring clients to each other and later discovered they had the same philosophies about running a business which makes them a great team.

For the most reliable honest and straight forward service experience in existence, Patti and Steve "are here for their customers". Their clientele numbers about 1,000, many are former clients from their former locations. They use a citrus cleaner rather than a chemical cleaner.

Upon entering the spacious native-like office/waiting room, you may not forget your car problem/maintenance or trouble shooting, but enjoy the three pond waterfall with running water complete with philodendrons and ferns. New carpets throughout, there is a children's room and kitchen. In this serene setting you can place your children in the playroom then help yourself to a cup of coffee.

The business is located next to the freeway on Westshore. An easy way to find it is to take Gilman Street towards the bay and turn right just before the freeway entrance (there are signs to follow).

Patti's husband, Jeffery, did the remodeling at their present site. They have sons Blaine, 17, and Dalton, 12 who assist where possible and a daughter, Phoebe.

Steve's wife, Rose, did the rock setting for the atrium. Their sons are Britten, 11, and Bryan, 6.

Phone 526-3906 for details.

Edward Elliott, a faithful volunteer

A Chamber of Commerce member since September 1973, Edward Elliott Realtor has been one of the most dedicated volunteers the Chamber ever had. Among the many volunteers keeping the Chamber functioning successfully, Elliott is the first to place his name on the sign-up sheet working at an event from the moment it begins and is often the last one to leave, working continuously. At the recent auto show, Elliott was on hand to help set up, working all day and one of the last to leave making certain everything was taking care of.

A Chamber president twice, Elliott previously was active in the Albany Rotary Club and the Berkeley Elks Club and in now active with SIRS as well as the Chamber of Commerce. We thank you Edward

Elliott.

In-Ads phone books

Berkeley based In-Ads Telephone Directory has published and hand delivered the Albany, El Cerrito and Kensington Local Yellow Pages to all businesses and residents.

The Albany Chamber of Commerce has a reserve for anyone not having received one. Publisher Norman Ironsides placed seven pages of discount coupons in the back of the book including Albany Chamber members Christopher's Nothing Fancy Cafe, Captain Video, Walker's Restaurant Paradise Chiropractic.

The first pages of the book includes a brief history of the Chamber of Commerce and what it does today, Quality of Life in Albany, a story on the Schools, Library and the Community Center, retail opportunities, demographics and Chamber members. The directories are free for the asking.

Order Christmas items now

If you missed out on your favorite Christmas item last year, it does not have to be that way this year. Scandia Imports' Jon Ardild will order Scandinavian items before Oct. 1 and give a 20 percent discount. The items are season only such as calendars, Christmas plates, ornaments, etc. The address is 1286 Solano Ave., or phone 525-7370.

A BIT OF ALBANY HISTORY: From the 1947 "Story of Albany" published by the Albany Police and Fire Civil Service Club we have taken a few stories on Albany's early days hoping others will find them interesting. This installment, the first of many, is on the *Park, Planning and Zoning Commission, 1947*.

On May 26, 1924, the first Zoning Committee was appointed. This committee was a volunteer group of laymen charged with the responsibility of establishing and carrying

Albany Chamber of Commerce

By Fern Luoma



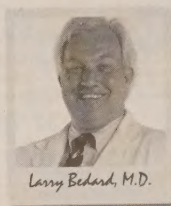
out regulations for the future development of Albany.

In 1927, by City Ordinance, a Park Commission of five members to be appointed by the City Council was established in the City Charter. Each of the Council has the power to appoint one member to the commission and the mayor to name one member of the Board of Education as his appointee. In the early days of the Commission, they met once a month as prescribed by the City Council resolution. However, with the continued growth of Albany and increased demands made

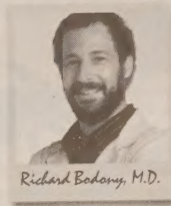
by the public for rezoning of property and recreation and services, the Commission met an average of three times a month.

The men serving on this commission five thousands of hours their time and energy to provide adequate park and recreation program, to beautify Albany, to prohibit undesirable businesses will be a blight on our city.

Don't Forget the Albany Fest, Saturday, Sept. 13 and Solano Avenue Stroll, Sunday, Sept. 14. Call 525-1771 for information.



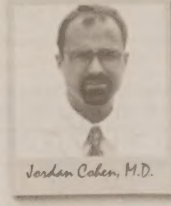
Larry Bedard, M.D.



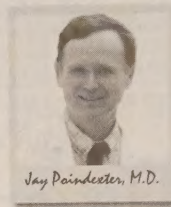
Richard Bedard, M.D.



Renee Boache, M.D.



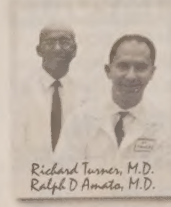
Jordan Cohen, M.D.



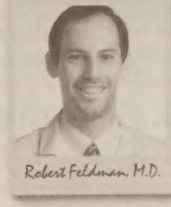
Jay Poindexter, M.D.



Sheila David, M.D.



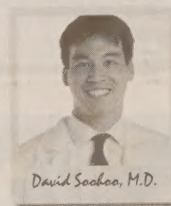
Richard Turner, M.D.
Ralph D. Amato, M.D.



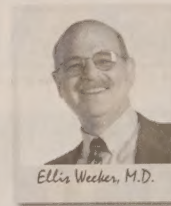
Robert Feldman, M.D.



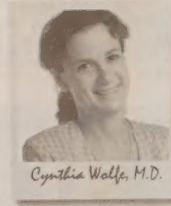
Helen Jackson, M.D.



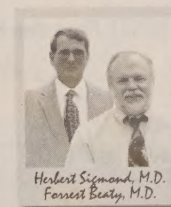
David Sachoo, M.D.



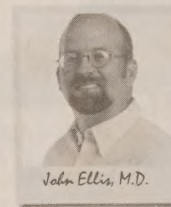
Ellis Wecker, M.D.



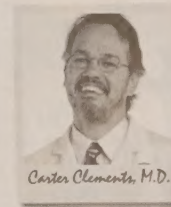
Cynthia Wolfe, M.D.



Herbert Sigmund, M.D.
Forrest Beatty, M.D.



John Ellis, M.D.



Carter Clements, M.D.



Carol Joslin, M.D.

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Cal-Bay Mortgage



Year

Continued from page 8

includes:
1. **Immunization:** California requires all students to meet immunization regulations, and the Albany Unified School District will not register students who have not met the requirements. The "no-shots, no-school" policy prohibits a grace period and does not recognize a parent's signature as verification of immunization. These regulations pertain to all grade levels, kindergarten through high school.
Parents must bring the child's original birth certificate or baptismal certificate (no copies) as proof of age and must complete health forms concerning vaccinations, immunizations, and childhood diseases. Children who transfer from out-of-state to school within California should already have immunization records on file. Documentation of dates of immunizations for polio, DPT measles (Rubeola, mumps, rubella (German measles) for kindergarten child is required. If a child can enter kindergarten this year unless he or she has had these immunizations. Minimum doses required for Polio are 3 as long as the third dose was received after the second birthday, and 4 doses of DPT, DTP or EBMUD document/bill, check, driver's license (not temporary), bank statement, public assistance documents.
If further address verification is needed, a Residence Verification Office will make unscheduled home visits. If it is determined subsequent enrollment that you and your

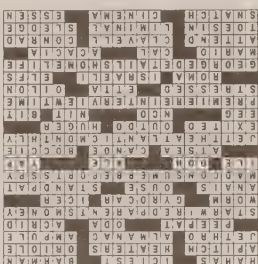
child's school residence is not in Albany, the student will be dropped from enrollment in the District.

2. **Other Documentation:** Students who have previous school transcripts and health records should bring these at the time of registration.

Miscellaneous information: Elementary school lunches are \$1.75 Middle and high school lunches are \$1.85.

Medical/Dental Insurance: The district does not carry medical or dental insurance for your child should he or she be injured on school premises while under school jurisdiction or through sponsored activities. The California State Education Code authorizes distribution of information about a low cost medical/dental insurance for children. Participation is voluntary, although the law requires any student participating in interscholastic sports to have adequate medical insurance.

Albany Children's Center: For information about full and part-time preschool programs and after school programs call 559-6590.

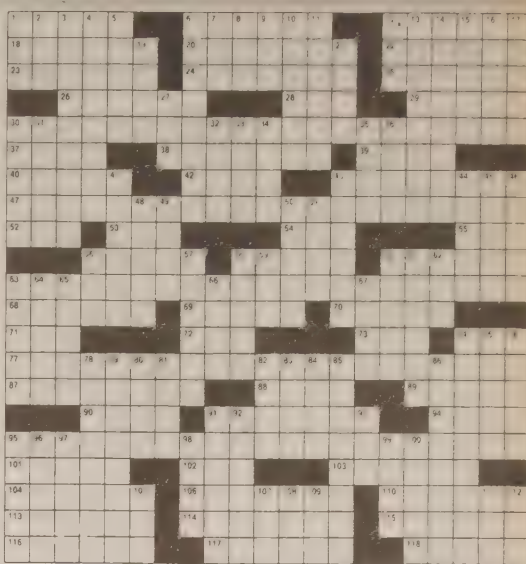


New York Times Magazine Puzzle

MAGAZINE MERGER MANIA

BY DAVID J. KAHN / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|
| <p>ACROSS</p> <p>1 Routine responses?</p> <p>6 Least amiable</p> <p>12 One who sets up shots</p> <p>18 Make — for Radiators and such</p> <p>22 Camden Yards player</p> <p>23 One of the Beverly Hills</p> <p>24 The World —</p> <p>25 Lab vessel</p> <p>26 View surreptitiously</p> <p>28 Concubine's room</p> <p>29 Tart</p> <p>30 How the celebrity's mom and dad survived?</p> <p>37 Contemptible one</p> <p>38 Theme park transport</p> <p>39 Hit man, so to speak</p> <p>40 Novelist Nin</p> <p>42 Name of three English rivers</p> <p>43 Be against change</p> <p>47 How the case of commercial espionage is halted?</p> <p>52 — du Diable</p> | <p>53 Cry of delight</p> <p>54 Bitter, to a Brit</p> <p>55 Chatter</p> <p>56 Nonplussed</p> <p>58 Birchbark</p> <p>60 Bowling game</p> <p>63 Commute overseas regularly?</p> <p>68 Quit</p> <p>69 Top</p> <p>70 More monumental</p> <p>71 Short test for brains?</p> <p>72 Base figure: Abbr.</p> <p>73 Annual hoops event, familiarly</p> <p>74 Taste</p> <p>77 Evening hours, to Larry King?</p> <p>87 Ready for a vacation</p> <p>88 Sundance's girl</p> <p>89 Four troubled waters</p> <p>90 Where the Via del Corso runs</p> <p>91 Elath resident</p> <p>94 Small toymakers: Var.</p> <p>95 President Bush writes part of his autobiography?</p> <p>101 Andreotti, for one</p> <p>102 1920's White House nickname</p> <p>103 Greenish-yellow hue</p> <p>104 Sit in on</p> <p>106 "King Rat" novelist</p> <p>110 Birdie of Broadway's</p> <p>"Bye Bye Birdie"</p> | <p>113 Diving instructions, maybe</p> <p>114 Barely perceptible</p> <p>115 Heavy hammer</p> <p>116 Lay hold of</p> <p>117 — verité</p> <p>118 Krupp family city</p> <p>DOWN</p> <p>1 Muslim pilgrimage: Var.</p> <p>2 Cousin of a lemur</p> <p>3 Weekly radio program</p> <p>4 Heatless</p> <p>5 It can go in brackets</p> <p>6 Angry words</p> <p>7 Animator's sheet</p> <p>8 Words before and after "what" for Poppye</p> <p>9 LAX abbr.</p> <p>10 Counterpart for madame</p> <p>11 Wall Street figure</p> <p>12 Stole</p> <p>13 Hardware</p> <p>14 Chutists' needs</p> <p>15 Keen</p> <p>16 80's TV divorcee</p> <p>17 Strapped</p> <p>19 Arizona native</p> <p>21 Mayo Clinic test</p> <p>27 S.A. country</p> <p>30 Master</p> <p>31 Not dissonant, musically</p> <p>32 Beat it!</p> | <p>33 Emulate Tyra Banks</p> <p>34 Agassi, at times</p> <p>35 Challenger of Stalin</p> <p>36 Sign of damage</p> <p>41 Mollify</p> <p>43 When repeated, cry at a celebratory party</p> <p>44 Intimidate, with "out"</p> <p>45 "To fetch —"</p> <p>46 Combining the ideal characteristics of its variety</p> <p>48 Nipped, with "out"</p> <p>49 1973 World Series stadium</p> <p>50 Reached in amount</p> <p>51 "The Time Machine" people</p> <p>56 Letters on a telephone bill</p> <p>57 Redressed, with "for"</p> <p>58 Williams title start</p> <p>59 "So then what?"</p> <p>60 Specter</p> <p>61 Left and right, maybe</p> <p>62 Midpoint: Abbr.</p> <p>63 Camp vehicles</p> <p>64 Strain</p> <p>65 Big name in golf</p> <p>66 Light: Prefix</p> <p>67 Tax-free bond, briefly</p> <p>74 Banking game</p> |
|---|---|---|--|



- | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| <p>75 "See ya!"</p> <p>76 English 101 subject</p> <p>78 Most gamesome</p> <p>79 Having equal angles</p> <p>80 Salinger dedicatee</p> <p>81 Interpret</p> <p>82 She had a "Tootsie" role</p> | <p>83 List ender</p> <p>84 Tpkcs.</p> <p>85 "Das Rheingold" locale</p> <p>86 Telephone connections</p> <p>91 Leaning to the right</p> <p>92 Corned beef alternative</p> | <p>93 Important sports org.</p> <p>95 Exams for advanced study, briefly</p> <p>96 Noted stationer</p> <p>97 "Coffee —"</p> <p>98 Churchly: Abbr.</p> <p>99 Some office equipment</p> <p>100 Elve's place</p> | <p>105 Letters after Gov. Jeanne Shaheen's name</p> <p>107 Sportscastrer</p> <p>108 Compass heading</p> <p>109 Thrash</p> <p>111 Sensitive subject, often</p> <p>112 Stereo site</p> |
|---|---|--|--|

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Arts & Letters

East Bay Events

Comedy has prima donnas face off

It's greasepaint at 20 paces when two prima donnas of the theatre find themselves sharing the same spotlight in the comedy *The Ladies of the Camillias* at the Julia Morgan Theatre beginning Sept. 5.

The show's plot, put on by Oakland's TheatreFIRST, is based on a real life occurrence between Sarah Bernhardt and Eleonora in a rival tradeiennes set in Paris at the turn of the century. Shows run Thursdays through Sundays through Oct. 5. Tickets are \$12 to \$16 with discounts available. Call 436-5085 for information.



Sarah Bernhardt (Elizabeth Benedict), the anarchist (Ben Cleveland) and Eleonora Duse (Wend McCaddon).

Quilts and fiber art appear at New Pieces

Quilts by Jim Silas Smoot II of Chicago, Kyra Hicks of Kansas City and Sherry Whetsone-McCall of Kansas City will be shown at New Pieces. The works of all three come to the gallery through their association with the Women of Color Network. The show opens with a reception on Friday, Sept. 5 and continues through Sept. 30. New Pieces is located at 1597 Solano Ave. Call 527-6779 for more information.



The cast of 'Ride' appear in Impact Theatre's latest production.

A new play for adult children of thieves

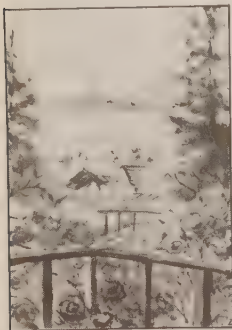
Impact Theatre is at it again with a new play by Chris Gomez premiering Sept. 5. *Ride* has a cast of five men and one woman in a story centered around a group of young criminals and the way their love affects their work. The only other description of the play is that it is a new work for the adult children of thieves and people trying to quit smoking.

The play can be seen at Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave. and will play Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m. through Sept. 5. Tickets are \$5 for students and Theatre Bay Area members and \$10 general admission.

Berkeley teens present 'Bizarre Shorts'

Berkeley Public Library's Teen Playreaders present *Bizarre Shorts*, a program of brief and absurd dramas for a mature audience. The free event takes place Saturday, Sept. 6, at 6:30 p.m. at the North Branch Library, 1170 The Alameda.

The Playreaders will present 15 short, bizarre plays, ranging from contemporary (David Ives' *Variations on the Death of Trotsky*) to classic (Ionesco's *The Bald Soprano*) in a three-hour program. Call 644-6850 for more information.



Local artist exhibits latest watercolors

Local watercolor artist, Andree Leenaers, is currently exhibiting her recent watercolors at Papa's Restaurant, located at 2026 University Ave., next door to the UA Theater. The show features a wide array of landscapes and flower arrangements and will last until the end of October. For more information call 843-4956.

Berkeley Community Chorus kick-off

The Berkeley Community Chorus and Orchestra begins its fall term Sept. 8 with three works that travel across time. Under director Arlene Sagan participants will learn and perform the explosive African mass *Missa Luba*, shaped from the chants and rhythms of Zaire, the traditional *Gloria* of Vivaldi and Benjamin Britten's popular *Ceremony of Carols*.

Rehearsals are held every Monday from 7 to 10 p.m., beginning Monday, Sept. 8, and culminate in public concerts Dec. 6, 7 and 14. Both inexperienced and experienced singers are welcome — no auditions or previous choral experience is required. Call 528-2145 for information.

UC Berkeley lunch-time series underway

A lunch-time poetry series direct by former Poet Laureate Robert Hass kicks off its second year at UC Berkeley this week with Chancellor Robert Berdahl as special guest and faculty and students reading and singing their favorite poems.

Women's basketball coach Marianne Stanley, former Clinton economic advisor Laura D'Andrea Tyson, an astronomer and an engineer are among campus figures who will read and discuss their favorite poems. Capping the event is a cappella singing by students Myriam Casimir and Desiree Pointer. The event is today at noon in the Morrison Room of Doe Library, the series regular format begins Sept. 11, when Pulitzer Prize-winner Jorie Graham comes to read from some of her poems in the second-floor Subject Catalog Hall outside the main reference room of Doe Library.

Dancing across two nations

By Tiller Russell

Conch shells sounded, drums pounded, rattles shook and bodies twisted at the South Berkeley Community Center last Thursday.

Although smoke wafted through the air and young faces beamed ecstatically, the tone of the event was far too spiritual to be mistaken for a rock 'n' roll concert. In fact, the smoke came from sacred incense and the beat of the music from an ancient Mexico.

The cause for the celebration was a reunion of indigenous peoples.

In a vibrant cultural exchange, a local Latino dance group shared a weekend of song, dance and ceremony with Native American visitors from Canada.

And an ancient symbol — depicting a condor and an eagle flying together in a circle — served as the seal for the reunion.

"The eagle represents the people of the north and the condor those from the south," said Adriana Betti, who leads the Berkeley-based Mexico or Aztec dance troupe, Cuautli Mitotiani. "The fact that they are flying to-

gether, circling one another, symbolizes that we are talking together, working to rebuild things," she continued.

The formal ceremony, which included effigy building, candle-lighting and the performance of traditional songs and dances, took place in Daly City on Friday and Saturday. The kids from both groups spent the days leading up to it rehearsing and catching up with old friends.

Staying at the Casa Joaquin Murrieta, a cultural center for Latinos at UC Berkeley, the St'At'Imc teens of the "Smiling People Reserve" enjoyed hearty meals, late night chats and basking in the California sun.

The nine visitors from Lillooet, British Columbia relished the chance to visit friends on their home turf. While members

of the Berkeley group have been to Lillooet several times in the past year, this was the first time most of the Canadians had come here.

"We came to broaden our horizons a little bit and to see something different. It's interesting to visit a new culture, where people are facing the same struggles. It also reminds us about what we have back home, which

'We bring our traditions and our friendship with us, and they bring theirs. They came to our town before and now we are here. Overall, we're very similar.'

—BELINDA TERRY, 15



Adriana Betti demonstrates Mexican dance technique.

we often take for granted," Dave Terry, 29, said.

But perhaps the most fascinating story about the Berkeley-Lillooet connection is its origin, which began last year on the "Transcontinental Run."

The run, Betti explained, is an effort to achieve solidarity between the native peoples of the Americas. Held every four years, the five-month journey takes two groups of runners from the northern- and southernmost points in

the Americas to Mexico City, midpoint between the two. It was on last year's run that Thomas Terry, 26 of Lillooet, Betti and several others, Cuautli Mitotiani. Terry completed the entire run when he met the Berkeley "knew the friendship was last."

"There are so many similarities between us. And the

See EXCHANGE, p. 13

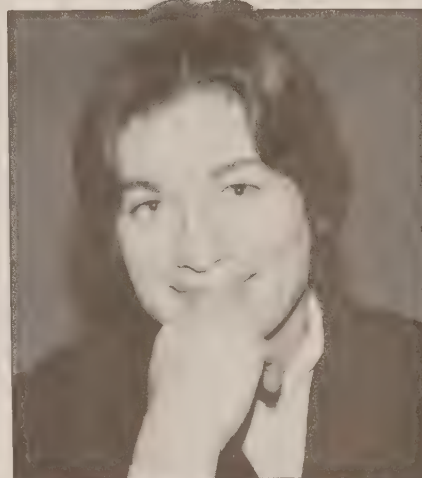
Lisa Wolpe: making her roles make a difference

By Carol Egan

Lisa Wolpe, recently seen as Lady Macduff and a Witch in the Berkeley Repertory Theatre's *Macbeth*, returns to the area as guest director for the California Shakespeare Festival's final production of the season, *Medea*. In addition to her work in theatre, Wolpe starred in the motion picture *Severance* and has appeared on television in episodes of *L.A. Law* and *A Year in the Life*. She is author of *Parzival*, nominated for Best New Play by the San Diego Critics Circle.

Founder and artistic director of the Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company (1993), Wolpe has performed in, produced and directed most of her company's major productions. She has also performed the roles of Romeo, Hamlet, and Richard III, to mention only a few. Her company's production of *Richard III* won six Drama-Logue awards, including "Best Production."

Recently she began to invite guest directors to work with her group. Tina Packer, a longtime colleague, directed the latest production, *Measure for Measure*. Packer runs Shakespeare & Co., an East coast company celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.



Lisa Wolpe directs 'Medea' for the California Shakespeare Festival this month.

Wolpe spent many years working with Packer, a one-time member of the Royal Shakespeare Company, and Packer's former collaborator, Kristin Linklater, a master voice teacher and acting coach. "Linklater and Packer collaborated for eleven years on Shakespeare & Co. When Kristin left, she started an all-female company called Company of Women which I'm also part of. I played Henry the Fifth in their inaugural

production."

Discussing the philosophy behind having an all-female Shakespeare Company, Wolpe said, "It's somewhat political in that it gives women a voice. But basically it goes beyond gender. I think you learn a lot about men by walking a mile in their shoes. You can see what their issues are. Certainly it provides a tremendous growing and learning experience for the actor. Being able to play

roles like Hamlet and Richard Third is a great stretch. But it's a tremendous communal experience, especially for those in Los Angeles. They get a sense of pride in seeing excel." Wolpe estimates women make up about 65 percent of her audiences.

Asked which roles she has most affected by, Wolpe responded, "I think all of the I've played have stretched in different ways. The first one was huge and somewhat inappropriate. I got the opportunity to play Lear when I was 33. That was such a stretch and was so fulfilling that it gave me the courage to go on. I think Hamlet was the best role for me — so beautifully written, such a tour de force, really fun."

In that instance she altered the role with another actor. She has been a lot of shows over the years because in actors are so busy with other work that you double a lot of things and end up with different leading roles. I played with two different leading roles in *Measure for Measure* — a tall white woman, the other

See WOLPE, p. 13

Good 'Hair' days at Diablo Valley College

By Don McConnell

Reactions to the musical *Hair*, that slick capsulization of late '60s counterculture, have historically been extreme. When it opened on Broadway in 1968, a year after the Summer of Love and before hippiedom had reached most of the country, it was a smash hit — except, of course, with hippies, who saw it as a commercial ripoff.

Ten years later, and periodically since, revivals have flopped, seemed dated. Yet the 1979 movie found a wide audience.

With the greatest reluctance, I let myself be dragged by a friend to the production currently running at Diablo Valley College in Concord. I overcame the reluctance largely because the show

was directed by Dennis Kohles, the miracle-working drama coach at Bishop O'Dowd High School.

I've seen the show again, with another friend, and both friends have plans to see it again with their kids (despite the "adults only" designation, fortunately not strictly enforced). I have plans to take yet other friends.

Partly it's because the production itself is so radiantly successful, so creatively realized and strongly cast that it makes you believe *Hair* is one of the great musicals.

Partly it's because, at the remove of nearly 30 years, *Hair* is so comprehensive a plunge into nostalgia. You may think you remember, but you'll still be surprised by the variety of manifes-

tations, of submovements, that flowered in the late '60s and thereafter, when everything adult and establishment seemed like one big misguided lie.

Of course, the political impact of the show is vitiated by its basic technique: Each aspect of the era — hare krishnas, campus takeovers, draft-card burnings, acid trips, free love, simplistic reinterpretations of American history — is taken up one by one and turned into a glitzy production number.

Even so, the ultimate effect is the recreation of an era with stunning impact. The day after I saw the production the first time, I ran into the friend who persuaded me to go. Meeting in a supermarket lot, she couldn't wait to say what I'd been thinking all day: "We

were right! All those people we had in the '60s were right. We've have some good about it since."

A second viewing let me concentrate on the factors of production that make *Hair* so more than it really is. Kohles brought quite a few of his students (present and past) to Concord, and to an extent, its high professional gloss is a youth production. For *Hair* wouldn't want anything else.

Particularly since the end of the production is not quite ours. For instance, in "Ain't No No," the stage is filled with testers carrying signs that protest, like "Free the Indians."

See HAIR, p. 13

Hair

Continued from page 13
And the feel and pizzazz of the music and choreography are a touch of Vegas.

That's not a criticism—I can't feel that if Kohles had waited the 1960s, flower power might have gained wider acceptance. The show that is basically a revue (rather than a drama) is a number (except one solo) of one or more soloists in a chorus. Kohles has devised a remarkable variety of simple choreographic effects, enriched by lighting, yes, even psychedelic, lighting effects.

The use of black light was prevalent; the white shirts in the rows of the audience glowed for much of the show.

Kohles (who choreographed as directed) was at his most inventive in using the chorus as a single block. In one number, they went on the stage and "rowed" from side, back and forth, in perfect synchronicity. In another, all bent double, all but the last, who rose out of the sea of bodies.

The musical direction, by Rob-Ross, was also notably creative. Amplification was consistently varied and, in the most subtle way, used to underscore the refresh. The palate ranged from barely amplified ballads to occasional number soaked to audience with the strength of a concert. (Ross probably shares credit with sound designer Torytfer. Torytfer, alas, was by a falling counterweight rehearsal.)

The leads were all strong. Cohen was a sexy and savvy singer. Brennan Vetter played a grown-up Beaver Cleaver.

Kyle Roberts (Claude) best captured the peculiar performance style of the 1970s, a refusal to fall into the slick Broadway style then prevalent; it worked well as he evolved from Jesus-imitating hippie to Vietnam fatality.

Also a perfect throwback was Katie Togneri's wide-eyed euphoria as the constantly-in-denial Jeanie. Kim Swankowski (Crissy) brought back fond memories of Joan Baez.

Asher Lyons was way over the top in his hilarious performance as Margaret Mead; Rusty Gilland showed a talent for the grotesque in a variety of mimed roles, especially a grinning devil. Justus Vierra, in an unnamed role, carried a couple of the major songs.

Two performers were in a class by themselves. As Sheila, Amiee Peri's gaunt beauty and husky performance (particularly of "How Can People Be So Heartless") were unforgettable. And Albert Hodge, as the token black guy, Hud, has as much natural talent as I've ever seen in regional theater. His projection, his mastery of cool moves, his vocal delivery grabbed the audience again and again.

On Friday, I sat next to a gray-haired guy whose reaction to the show belied his establishment look. By the time the cast reached the finale, "Let the Sunshine In," he was singing along at full voice. I don't think he could help himself. When the show ended, he turned to his wife.

"That was excellent!"

The remaining performances of Hair are Sept. 5, 6 and 12 at 8 p.m., Sept. 14 at 7 p.m., Sept. 13 at both 8 p.m. and midnight, and Sept. 7 at both 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Tickets are \$13 (\$11 seniors, \$9 students). Call 687-4445.

Then there's the joy of seeing all your youthful beliefs turned into glitzy production numbers.

Wolpe

Continued from page 12

small black woman. They're very different but both interesting experiences. I think it's an exercise in flexibility when you're a poor non-profit organization and you're in a very wealthy industry."

Modeling another aspect of her company on those of her mentors, Wolpe has also adopted the tradition of outreach into the community. In addition to a major spring production, each fall the company does a smaller show which tours to universities, high schools, and community groups. "It's a compendium of scenes from Shakespeare, bare-Bard with no sets or costumes. We call the current one Lovers and Madmen."

The company also dialogues with its audience, presenting an Open Forum after every performance. "The actors come out and spend about 20 minutes with the audience, talking to one another and getting to know each other. It's my favorite part of the process. You really get to know the community. It's almost life-changing for some people."

The LA Women's Shakespeare Company has been commissioned by UC Riverside to do a performance and forum for all the UC Literature and Theatre Department heads on Oct. 24.

"After that we go into the Santa Monica High School Auditorium and do some shows and work-

shops there. And then we'll start working with a group with whom we've allied called 'United Colors,' which is high school kids from at-risk communities in East L.A. In the spring of next year I'll direct Midsummer Night's Dream and six of the girls will be included in the cast. We've always taught workshops to at-risk kids concurrent with our productions. Part of our mission is to be a role model to the girls."

Like many smaller theatre groups, the Los Angeles Women's Shakespeare Company does not have its own space. It performs mainly at the Gascom Center Theatre in the former Helms Bakery in Culver City. It is largely dependent for its support on grants and donations, which come from various organizations such as the City of Los Angeles, the Flintridge Foundation, the Women's Foundation, City of Santa Monica, the National/State/County Partnership, and individual donors.

As for her current assignment, Wolpe admits to never having directed a Greek tragedy before. The play was selected by Joe Vincent, artistic director of the California Shakespeare Festival, for the final production of the season. "I was in Medea once. Michael Addison directed it when I was in college. I was the Leader of the Chorus, and we took it to the Edinburgh Festival." She is delighted to be taking on the task.

"It's wonderful because it's so

passionate and simple and short. Everything seems to be hugely important and emblematic of so much more. It's also a very political play. It's got a whole seething cauldron of male/female issues which are as old as the hills."

Exchange

Continued from page 12

get to know about their culture and traditions the more similar we seem. I feel like I'm at home here," Terry said.

Terry's younger sister, Belinda, 15, voiced a similar opinion. "We bring our traditions and our friendship with us, and they bring theirs. They came to our town before and now we are here. Overall, we're very similar," she said.

When asked what he hoped the kids would gain from their visit, Dave Terry responded, "leadership." Noting that the teens had raised over \$3000 for the trip, he said, "There is a lot of strength and power in the youth, but a lot

of times it's repressed. We want to build on their self-sufficiency, independence and pride, because they are the leaders."

Betti added that she hoped the kids in Cuautli Mitotiani gained something similar. "We want to get native kids interested in our culture. We want to get rid of that sense of shame about being Indian. It gives them a safe place to go and keeps them away from drugs and gang-violence. And when you give them a chance to participate in a cultural exchange like this one, it creates a stronger bond," she said.

The Canadians are hoping to return to Berkeley in the next couple of months.

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Dishing the Dish
with The Maven

The folks over in Albany are going to be eating, drinking and donating their money to something called a Bicycle Safety Rodeo. The Maven wonders if one of the events will be a prize for the kid who's able to make the most noise by putting a playing card between the spokes. Seriously, the Albany police have a bike safety program and some of the food and beverage purveyors of that city will be having the first A Taste of Albany Food & Wine Show, Sept. 23 at the Solano Bar & Grill, 1133 Solano Ave.

Aside from host chef Sam Chen's food, the event will feature wines from Beverages & More!, bistro food and wine from Solano Cellars, beers from Pyramid Brewing, and breads and pastries from Grace Baking. Tickets are \$20 and the event kicks off at 7 p.m. Call 525-8686 or call reserve officer Krebs at the Albany Police Dept. 528-5777, ext. 828.

Drew Nieporent, the restaurateur who owns a bunch of eateries with Robert DeNiro and Francis Coppola, including S.F.'s Rubicon and New York's TriBeCa Grill, opened another place last Saturday night in the town of Sonoma called Freestyle. The opening chef is from Brooklyn's River Cafe.

The owner of Ajanta on Solano, Lachu Moorjani, is always concerned about his customers. He sends along a missive practically apologizing for the Indian restaurant's attentive policy regarding heat—the fieriness of the dishes. Ajanta offers five degrees of heat:

"The process of creating different degrees of heat is not very precise," explains Moorjani. "A 'medium' one night might be different from a 'medium' on another night. Secondly, a 'medium' at Ajanta might be different than a 'medium' at another restaurant." Moorjani wants it known that whatever degree of spice you want your food, he and his staff will attempt to accommodate you. That's sweet—and hot.

The Maven is taking a three-week vacation. See you at the end of the month.

Maven: One who thinks they know everything about something. Got a tip for The Maven? Fax it to 339-4066.

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The Journal BERKELEY VOICE

After '96, does Berkeley have it under control?

By Jelani Harper

The watchword for Berkeley High's upcoming football season seems to be discipline.

"When you work with me," explained assistant head coach and defensive coordinator Gary Weaver, "it's like the military. I say something and that's it, either you do it or else."

The rest of the coaching staff also seems to have adopted this no-nonsense approach to disciplining the Yellowjackets, and with good reason. Last year's team saw its share of problems both on and off the field, with incidents ranging from in-practice fighting to the murder of a player off campus.

"Last year was a tumultuous season," summarized head coach Joe Martin. "We had issues that ranged from concerns about rac-

ism in the Amador Valley game (last Nov. 1) to a car crash that left three of our players in critical condition. Fortunately the kids saw their way through it, which I accredit all to the strength of the assistant coaches who were able to work with them and keep them focused on school and on competition."

Still, Martin insists, things are going to be different this year. Practice is conducted three times a day and Martin and his staff provide the players with both breakfast and lunch. The sessions are open to the general public, but spectators are not allowed on the playing field.

"This is probably the highest level of discipline these kids have dealt with in an athletic competition," Martin remarked.

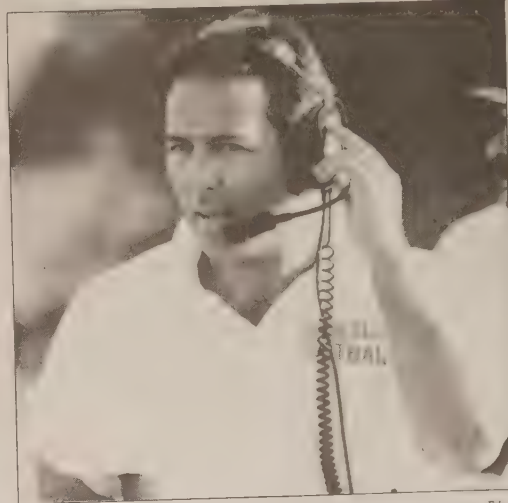
"These kids will listen," said Weaver, "they're young, they're energetic, and they're willing to learn. This year the guys are more

disciplined, they don't talk back and they do what we ask them to do. Last year we had a lot of good athletes but this year we have a more team-oriented group of guys."

Wide receiver Ariel Herzog would certainly seem to agree. The preseason All-American pick explained, "This year we have more guys who are into the team and less into themselves. Last year we had a lot of guys who got kicked out of practice every day but this year we're playing more as a unit, and that's why we're going to win."

Safety and team captain Ricky Cornejo shares Herzog's optimism, and added, "We're just gunning for everyone we lost to last year, just trying to get those wins. Everyone's going to be a tough game."

"We'll be playing a lot of underclassmen, a lot of sophomores and juniors this year," said Martin. "Last year we coached a group of kids



File '96
Berkeley head coach Joe Martin: 'This is probably the highest level of discipline these kids have dealt with ...'

that weren't ours, we came in late and did our best to instill the fundamentals of offense and defense. But

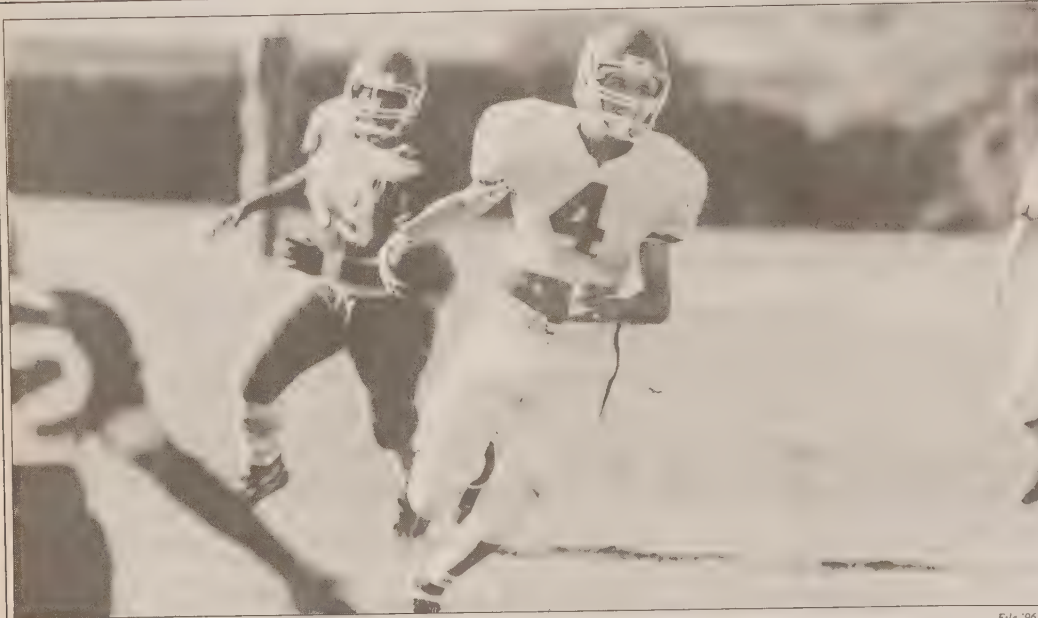
from January 1st up until this date all we've worked toward is building a long-term program for suc-

'It's like the military. I say something and that's it, either you do it or else.'

— GARY WEAVER
BERKELEY ASSISTANT HEAD COACH

cess."

The action starts on Sept. 12 when the Jackets open practice against defending San Francisco City League AAA champion Galileo at Kezar Stadium. Sept. 19 the team faces the Logans, the sixth ranked team in the state, at home with a game scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Logan game will be broadcast live on Bay TV's Friday Football series, and then replayed at midnight a.m. the following morning.



QB Max Slenderbroek, above, has lost a lot of receivers; while RB Kwamin Taylor, below, will exemplify SM's smash-mouth style.

Panthers to ACCAL top in '97?

By John Gardella

A 25-14 season-ending win over Alameda last season is what saved the St. Mary's football program from a humiliating losing season. Finishing 5-5 after winning the Alameda-Contra Costa Athletic League two years in a row didn't provide much solace. But at least the Panthers had something to build on.

The rest of the ACCAL may not appreciate what coach Dan Shaughnessy has built this season in Berkeley.

"Last year we had to rebuild with young players, but the flip side is those players are back this season," said Shaughnessy, who enters his 38th year of coaching. "We have the same cast and we have to address the mistakes we made in the past. We were a very young team, but now those same

kids are an experienced bunch."

A typical Shaughnessy team runs, which means the offensive line is the integral part of the offense.

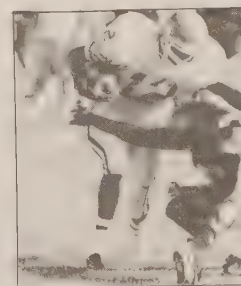
"The offensive line is the key," said Shaughnessy. "That's never going to change. The five guys in the box are the most important players on the field."

Senior Matt Himelstein, a 6-foot-2, 275-pound behemoth anchors the line on both sides of the ball. Pat Hodgson, Nate Williams, Keir Paasch and Justin Goss-Seeger round out the starting unit. Depth could be a problem.

SM's running back corps, with Khalid and Kwamin Taylor, Paki Gordon and Devin Poche-West, all two-way players and track team members, have the speed and vision to allow Shaughnessy to run his beloved smash-mouth football right at opponents.

Quarterback Max Slenderbroek returns for his senior season, and Shaughnessy said he'd like to see a more potent passing attack.

That could be a problem with Ben Gerbacio, the team's leading



receiver last season, having graduated. But the Panthers do have speed. Jafar Williams and Jerriod Mack, both track team stars, could give

defensive backs fits.

SM utilizes two-way players, meaning the offense simply switches to its defensive counterpart positions when the other team has the ball.

"I think we are pretty good defensively," said Shaughnessy. "We're strong up front and have speed. It helps that everyone comes back to a familiar role."

The Panthers scrimmaged at Alhambra Saturday, and open the 1997 season at home at 1:30 p.m. Sept. 13, against Riordan. Although El Cerrito coach Frank Milo predicted SM will vie for the top ACCAL spot, Shaughnessy dismissed that as "shop talk."

"A lot of what this league had last year returns," said Shaughnessy. "I think El Cerrito, Encinal, Piedmont and even Kennedy will be strong."

This season, they'll be yellin' 'defense' over in El Cerrito

By John Gardella

Lamont Thompson, gone. Antoine Lacy, gone. George Phillips, gone. Donny Davis, gone. Edward Dyer, gone. Evan Lurie, gone. Everyone an all-league player, everyone gone.

The list of graduated players from last season's Alameda-Contra Costa Athletic League champion El Cerrito High football team could go on, but it might be too painful to the Gauchos' coaching staff.

EC lost almost all of its starters from a high-octane offense and 9-2 season (it lost in the first round of the North Coast Section playoffs to Miramonte), which often had teams beat by halftime. But while coach Frank Milo must rebuild his scoring machine, his defense could cause fits for the opposition this season.

"The defense is our strength this year," said Milo. "And to me, the secondary is our strong point."

The defensive backs are an experienced bunch, who seem to have been around a long time. Seniors Hartzell Swann, Dan Ursini, Marcus Parham and Jackson Taylor all have experience and speed.

Senior Ronnie Cooper is a three-year starter at linebacker, with two defensive linemen, Teonta Jones and Jeff Ghidella shifting to the linebacker slots. Brian Blackmore returns at linebacker for his senior year.

"Jones had to sit out last year with a knee injury, or else he would have started as a junior," Milo said.

The line is formidable, with all-leaguer Michael Bigbee anchoring a strong unit. Brandon Griggs, Aaron Green, Elijah Brown, Brian Dickson and Michael Canepa, all seniors, can also play on the line.

While fans know the defense, the offensive players may take a while to be recognized.

"We did lose a lot offensively," said Milo. "But the back-up players from last year have done a good job

so far. Isaac Phelps replaces Hartzell Swann and Milo put the option more often in the box."



EC coach Frank Milo: "The secondary is our strength."

'If our offensive line develops, we'll give teams all they can handle. You win with defense, that's our strength.'

— FRANK MILO, EC COACH

"Phelps is more of a said Milo. "We'll roll out and put more pressure on the defense."

Four players, including Davis at tight end.

"Those are big shoes to replace Lacy (the ACCAL MVP) and Donny could be a catch."

Ursini and David Milo to get the bulk of the wide outs, while Swann and replace Lacy (the ACCAL MVP) and Donny could be a catch."

See DEFENSE on page 15

Cal's Smith ready to tear 'em up now

By John Gardella

"We're gonna kill those guys."

Cal's Tarik Smith lowered his voice Tuesday when he made that prediction for Saturday's season opener at Houston. He stared at some point beyond the tape recorders and notebooks, but it was for everyone to hear.

What Smith really said is: I'm back, 100 percent, and we're a better team because of it. His coach agrees.

"Tarik's worked very hard, he's ready to go," said Tom Holmoe, who makes his head coaching debut Saturday.

Saying the tailback is anxious to get back on the field, even one made of Astro turf ("I love turf," he said), is like saying the malfunctioning space station disturbed the Mir crew.

"It's safe to say I won't get much sleep this week," said Smith, who ran for 400 yards in nine quarters last season before sustaining a sea-

See SMITH on page 15



File '95
Cal RB Tarik Smith showed much promise in his sophomore season.

Cal's defense in '97 Second(ary) to no one

By John Gardella

Cal's sieve-like defense gets its first major test in the team's season opener Saturday, when the Bears take on Houston in the cavernous Astrodome.

Last season the Golden Bears were a generous lot, allowing opponents a healthy 460 yards per game; the secondary was responsible for 270 of them. Houston last season was prolific on offense, piling up 344 points on its way to a Conference USA championship.

Fortunes, however, changed; most definitely the Cougars, who lost to Alameda last week, and must rebuild after losing its quarterback (Cal's defensive player of the year, Clements) and running back (NFL draft pick Antonio Davis). Additionally, Cal's defense shouldn't be as porous as last year's, said Houston coach R. Helton Tuesday. "NFL scouts say they have 10 pro players in our defense."

See CAL on page 15

Former Panther McShane switched to back-up center for USC this coming year

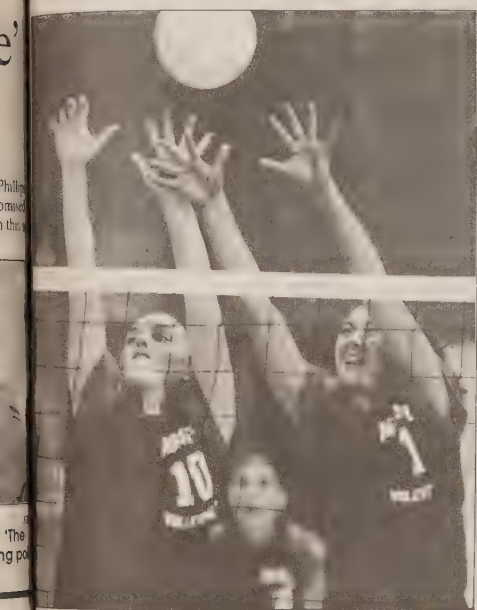
Matt McShane, who starred at St. Mary's High as an offensive guard, has become the back-up center at the University of Southern California this season. McShane, who played in Berkeley from 1990-93, is a sophomore at USC where he'll play behind starting Trojan center Jonathan Himebauch. Says McShane's coach at USC John Robinson, "McShane is a young, developing offensive lineman who has shown continued improvement. He re-

ally jumped up in spring practice. He has the personality of a center, who toils in anonymity, and he really took to the position switch." As a redshirt freshman last season, the 6-5, 285-pound McShane appeared briefly in one game against Oregon State. As a Panther, McShane was named to the '93 Super Prep All-Far West team, as well as Cal-Hi Sports all-state second team, Long Beach Press-Telegram Best in the West second team, and San Francisco Examiner All-San Francisco-Metro first team. At St. Mary's he was the school's student body president. He also played basketball and was on the track team. He's a business administration major at USC.

Nominate Hills Newspapers' top athletes

It's time to nominate Hills Newspapers Athlete of the Month. We select, with your help, the area's best girl and boy athlete — from the preps and youth ranks — each month. Send us your nominees. Athletes, as well as academic achievement, are among the two criteria we will use to select our

top stars. Send us your choice and tells us why they deserve to be Hills' Athlete of the Month. Our editor and writers will then select those athletes we believe best deserve to be awarded this accolade. Fax your nominations to Hills Sports, 339-4066, or mail to 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland 94619.



Cougar's Meyer plays at Carlton

Megan Meyer, left, with Albany teammate Lindsay Kagawa (now at Stanford), was a member of Albany High's great volleyball team the last three years. She has been named to the volleyball team at Carleton College in Northfield, Minn. Carleton participates in the NCAA Division II, is a member of the Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. With only three returning letter winners, Meyer will have an opportunity to step in for the Carls in her freshman year, according to second-year coach Liz Jarnigan.

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EC's Marcus Parham, No. 2, will be part of a strong senior secondary this season.

Defense

Continued from page 14

ing rusher) and Dyer in the backfield.

Milo's offensive line features

Cal

Continued from page 14

team, with several on defense."

One of the defense's strengths is the secondary, where the unit is healthy and depth isn't a problem.

"I feel good about the secondary and about our depth," said coach Tom Holmoe. "Overall, we'll be better. All indications are we are a better defense."

Derrick Gardner and Kato Serwanga

Brown, John Lopez, Aaron Green, Kelly O'Dea and Ryan Ikuta.

The Gauchos scrimmage at Vallejo Friday and open the season at home against Castlemont, Sept. 12.

"If our offensive line develops,

are at the corner positions, and Pete Destefano and Marquis Smith get the nod at free safety and strong safety, respectively.

Cal players and coaching staff have studied the tapes from Houston's season-opening loss and feel they have a good read on the Cougars' offense. "Some of the things, they are predictable," said Smith, a junior who's started 15 games in his career. "It's nothing very complicated to where we have to stress out about

we'll give teams all they can handle," said Milo, who predicted the Gauchos will challenge Encinal and St. Mary's for ACCAL supremacy. "You win with defense and that's our strength."

it. We just have to go in and focus."

The key for Cal's defense, which returns 18 of the top 22 players from last year, is execution, said left corner Serwanga. "Cal will always have the ability," the senior said. "It just comes down to execution."

Cal hopes the defense that shows up Saturday isn't as liberal as last year's.

Smith

Continued from page 14

son-ending knee injury against Nevada Sept. 21.

When told Houston's defense allowed nine yards per carry against Alabama last week in a 42-17 loss, Smith shrugged his shoulders. Smith is so confident heading into his first game in nearly a year, that whether the Cougars or the 49ers showed up would be irrelevant — he believes he can run against anyone.

"To me it doesn't matter if they gave up just one yard," he said.

Smith, such an integral part to Cal's West Coast offense, has a line in front of him that should open gaping holes for his 6-foot frame if it executes. The Bears' offensive line is one of the nation's biggest, averaging 6 feet 5-1/2 inches and 302 pounds.

Smith worked relentlessly on rehabbing his knee. For two months after the surgery to repair his torn anterior cruciate ligament, the mercurial runner wore a mechanical brace, which flexed his knee even when he slept. He basically lived in the weight room.

"I've done nothing this past year but go to class and work on my right leg," Smith said. "The last thing I wanted to do is have the first game come around and have to hear, 'T, you're just not ready yet, maybe by the third game.' That wasn't going to be the case."

Smith was such a dangerous runner for a brief time last season don't seem to have abandoned him. Just ask the guy in charge of handing him the ball.

"You hand the ball off to him and the next thing you know he's in the end zone," said quarterback Justin Vedder. "He has that special burst that most people don't have. He can be jogging and all of a sudden it's 4.3 speed."

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■ Martin Snapp

The People's Princess: Move over, Evita. Step aside, Elvis. Take a hike, Marilyn. Make way for the greatest icon of them all.

Diana, Princess of Wales, was the most famous person in the world. And, in many ways, the most beloved.

And now, with her tragic death, she passes into legend. A hundred years from now, people will still look back wistfully and wonder what might have been.

How is it that this young woman, who, after all, was famous because she belonged to one of the most anachronistic institutions in the world — the British monarchy — managed to touch our hearts so deeply? It was her good looks. Let's face it: She was drop-dead gorgeous, with blue eyes that would melt an iceberg.

Partly it was her good works: She held hands with AIDS patients when most people were still afraid to be in the same room with them. And only a few weeks ago she was raising hackles with the British establishment because of her crusade to ban land mines.

Partly it was her style: She had grace and charm and the ability to apply the common touch without ever being vulgar.

Partly it was her affection for her sons. Having survived a horrible childhood herself, she seemed determined to spare her boys the same fate — no easy task when you're marrying into the world's most famous dysfunctional family. (Charles' great-grandfather, George V, once said, "I was scared to death of my father, and I'm going to make damned sure my sons are scared to death of me!") Partly it was the soap-opera quality of her life — from "Shy Di" to spurned wife to betrayed lover to her post-marital career as roving ambassador of good will. We read about all her ups and downs, and forgave her everything.

And that's because, in the final analysis, she seemed to be one of us, not one of "them." Her obvious compassion for the suffering of others, whether it be an AIDS patient or a little kid whose legs had been blown off by a land mine, transcended all barriers of class or celebrity.

For almost 20 years, I've been haunted by the image of George Moscone weeping at Leo Ryan's funeral — haunted, because in hindsight you realize that Moscone himself had only a few weeks to live.

And now I'll be haunted by the image of Diana comforting Elton John at Gianni Versace's funeral, because she, too, was doomed.

Diana once said that she wanted to be remembered as the Queen of Hearts.

Well, she's got her wish. In the hearts of her countrymen, as well as people all around the world, there will never be another like her.

And the world seems diminished without her in it.

So long, Squidgy. People should be judged by how they play the hand life deals them. And she played hers very well, indeed.

• • •

And that brings us to the question of what should be done with the paparazzi who hounded her to her death, and the so-called newspapers that print their pictures. Even if Diana's driver was drunk, they helped cause the crash.

According to some reports, a paparazzo who was snapping pictures of Diana as she lay dying was beaten up by bystanders at the accident.

If true, all I can say is "Three cheers for the bystanders." These blood-suckers have the gall to call themselves "journalists," which puts them on a par with me. And I'm not enjoying the company.

It's the duty of a reporter to find out what's good in society and celebrate it, and to find out what's bad in society and expose it.

It is NOT to pry into people's private lives, or to harass them so badly that they have to career madly through the streets of Paris trying to escape.

What they did to Diana was stalking, pure and simple. If there isn't a law against it, there ought to be.

It's also time we re-thought what has been happening in journalism in the two decades since Watergate. That was the profession's finest hour, when two courageous young reporters exposed a criminal plot to subvert the Constitution of the United States.

Unfortunately, the next generation of reporters and editors learned the wrong lesson. They decided that the name of the game was "gotcha!" Soon everything became fair game — from John Tower's drinking to Gary Hart's womanizing to the "distinguishing marks" that may or may not be on Bill Clinton's private parts.

I've said it before, and I'll say it again: This dumbing-down of the news is debasing our public dialog. Shame on the Globe and the Star and the National Enquirer. Shame on "A Current Affair" and "Hard Copy." Shame on Geraldo and Riki Lake and Jerry Springer.

And shame on us for buying the garbage they're selling.

Martin Snapp's column appears every Thursday in *The Journal*. Write him c/o Hills Newspapers, 2936 Domingo Ave., Berkeley CA 94705, phone (510) 273-9039, or e-mail catman1@creative.net

Board

Continued from front page

"We're cannibalizing our schools to pay a huge state debt, and we're balancing our books on the backs of a huge deferred maintenance budget. I propose a bond measure to create a new middle school in Richmond and finally take care of the massive amounts of deferred maintenance problems we have in our capital facilities."

Christopher Griffin, who is 20 and a preacher, began by saying: "People ask me, 'Why do you want to run for school board? You're so young.'"

"We need to put an emphasis on getting more educational books in the schools," he said. "Also, the way our district is set up, if it doesn't know how to deal with a child, it says 'Let's get rid of him.'"

Griffin felt nurses should also be brought back into the schools. "Young ladies, they need someone to go talk to. Teen pregnancy is very high in the district, and we need someone to educate our children on sexuality."

"The school also needs more school police officers," Griffin also noted that he would arrange benefit concerts as part of a plan to encourage students to maintain a 2.0 grade-point average.

Incumbent Karen Fenton of Richmond emphasized her role as a proactive leader, saying, "My role, I feel, is to be a community leader as well as a district leader," she said.

"My focus will be on school-to-career, which is making the curricu-

lum in the classroom relevant so that students are interested in studying and learning. The focus in this district is starting at the high school level.

"I believe in a proactive, positive way to get the staff to perform, not in a punitive style. Our staff love our children. They're sacrificing for them. They're not getting a lot of pay. What you do is encourage them to work together."

Two-term incumbent Woody Snodgrass of El Cerrito gave out his home and office phone numbers and encouraged citizens to call him with their education concerns. "I came out of retirement in 1989 to run for school board," he said. "I'm a full-time school board member."

Snodgrass stressed his role as an advocate for education in Sacramento and the importance of his semiannual trips New York City to deal with district financial matters.

"The primary focus now is to build a middle school at the Harry Ellis site," he said. "We own the property. We'll have a general obligation bond. We'll pass it."

Snodgrass has been a teacher, dean and vice principal in the district and has 15 years of experience in school administration.

Deborah Dias, who is from Pinole and is a community affairs specialist for the City of Richmond, stressed the need to prepare district graduates who aren't planning to go to college. "We need to develop a partnership in vocational training as well as create channels that make it easier for the community and local businesses to

take part in the schools."

She also stressed the importance of a healthy environment for learning. "We need to make sure that our campuses are crime and drug free, safe and clean. We have to increase parent involvement throughout the district."

Incumbent Charles Ramsey, an attorney and El Cerrito resident, emphasized the achievements of the board during the past four years. "When I came on the board four years ago," he said, "we wanted to talk about education, but we were looking at huge balance sheets and credit accounts. We had to make decisions just to keep this district afloat."

"Finances have improved," he said. "The average daily attendance is over 500 students. We've restored the sixth period in the middle school. We also created an HIV/AIDS comprehensive program. We're the first in Contra Costa County that will have a condom distribution program. We've also gone to de-tracking, where students now are together. There is no identification and isolation of children."

"We're also going to have to continue to fight this debt," Ramsey concluded. "(State Assemblywoman) Dion Aroner is working right now to restructure our debt payment and our debt service in this community."

Before closing remarks, the candidates fielded questions from the audience about children with attention-deficit disorder, how to involve non-English-speaking parents, character and integrity, and standardized testing.

But some residents, on cards turned into the facilitator, wrote "no movie theater" and "no arcades." Others suggested medical or educational institutions, such as a junior college branch, a continued learning center, and child or elder day care centers.

Del Norte

Continued from front page

control of San Pablo. Caltrans control the right of way, speed limit, and location of cross-walks on San Pablo. Recently, citizens have mentioned the possibility of taking San Pablo out of state control and under the city's wing, but city officials say it is "not in city's fiscal interest."

While the Del Norte community planning process is under way, consultants are writing responses to citizens' comments on the original Del Norte Draft Environmental Impact Report. At the workshop, resident and council candidate Larry Damon said he is concerned that the city council is "rushing to judgement."

Councilmembers Gina Brusatori and Mark Friedman said drafting responses was part of the city's Negotiating Agreement with the developer. As for the "rush to judgement," they both said, "It's not going to happen on my watch."

Conditions, realities

After the audience voiced many of its concerns, Principal of Bay Area Economics Janet Smithheimer laid out what she titled "Market Conditions and Development Realities." She defined development realities as use, market, scale, design, access/parking, fiscal impact and financial feasibility.

Smithheimer presented the audience with a map of cinemas, big box retail and regional malls in Contra Costa and Alameda counties. Regional malls usually draw from about 20 miles, she said.

"You can start to see that regional malls really cover the whole East Bay," Smithheimer said, "that is why we don't see new proposals for bringing department stores into El Cerrito." Big boxes are another, new retail prototype that are now starting to disappear, she added.

El Cerrito holds 10,000 households, with a stable population of 22,300. It has a relatively high percentage of home ownership, 63 percent. This is a plus, Smithheimer said, because retailers look for stable communities with high home ownership. In contrast, home ownership in the Bay Area is at 54 percent.

The median income in El Cerrito is \$48,300, versus the Bay Area-wide median of \$51,400. The median age is 40.5 years old vs. 34.3 years old in the Bay Area.

"This is real important," said Smithheimer. "El Cerrito has a lower proportion of children and a higher proportion of the middle aged and elderly. This starts to speak toward a different kind of a market than some other parts of the Bay Area."

Smithheimer used state sales tax data to assess the city's "sales leakage," that is El Cerrito's potential sales minus its actual sales.

In apparel, El Cerrito is losing 70 percent of possible sales. In eating and drinking, it is losing 11 percent of possible sales. In home furnishings, 51.3 percent of possible sales going elsewhere.

The sales not leaking, however, are automotive and general merchandise. Yet, Smithheimer's sales figures are from the end of 1995, before the Emporium closed. Due to Emporium's closure, El Cerrito will lose about \$22,300 a year in sales, said Smithheimer.

Several specific ideas were generated at the meeting. In terms of retail, residents stressed quality, upscale uses, such as a flower shop, microbrewery, boutique, bookstore, international newsstand, bakery, gourmet shop, small grocery store, or coffee shop. Professional offices were suggested, including an office research

park, or specifically a high-tech research park.

In terms of entertainment and recreation, residents suggested high-quality restaurants, a small movie theater, indoor skating, game centers such as Sega and Lasertag.

Scenarios

Continued from front page

of Wales Institute plan for the Del Norte BART station, said Rosemary Loubal. Loubal, however, suggested Del Norte Developer Charles Oewel and the Pacific Development Group (developers of the Del Norte Market-place, across the street from Del Norte BART) work together to come up with a community-sanctioned plan. Oewel didn't take Loubal up on the idea.

The City Council split the scope of consulting work between Economic and Planning Systems and Janet Smithheimer's Bay Area Economics. Therefore, at the task force meeting and in future meetings, Walter Kieser of EPS will be the economic consultant for the Del Norte process.

Kieser laid out seven planning principles in order to raise key issues, and separate objective fact from subjective policy.

1. Alternatives should "fit" into a citywide context of emerging development, development plans and policies (General Plan, etc.).

Resident Peter Loubal mentioned the lack of a current general plan. Kieser called this a chicken and egg problem.

"So think about the major trends," he said. "What comes most to mind is the Plaza. You've only got so much market demand, and you are trying to create a specialty retail facility in the Plaza. You're not going to do that a mile up the road, as well. You have to take a pick."

2. The alternatives should reflect the local context and development trends surrounding site.

Already the marketplace has spoken by virtue of development features in place, said Kieser. Those big boxes everyone loves to hate are there, he said, because of visibility and access. Once they are there, they have a snowball effect. The PDG project is a classic example of aggregation that happens in the marketplace, he said.

"You have a development process, whether you like it or not," he said, "and you have to look at that and say, 'Given those facts, what works in this context?'"

The existence of those users will constrain the kind of tenants you are going to get, said Kieser. For instance, specialty retailers (like the shops on Solano in Albany or Fourth Street in Berkeley) don't like to be anywhere near big boxes.

A mixed-use land use pattern has been established. "Fragmented ownership and land use patterns may make 'theme' or coordinated development in the vicinity difficult," an EPS Memorandum reads. "Coordinated development is typically necessary to generate a 'critical mass' or attract a major anchor use, without which it is difficult to attract the desired mix of businesses."

3. Market demand and retail trends within the trade area should be considered.

When considering this principle, Kieser examined one of the ideas on the table, educational institutions. This puts all of your eggs in one basket, and, most likely, it won't fit within many of your parameters, such as providing fiscal benefits to the city or generating little traffic, he said.

4. Alternatives should be attrac-

tive to private investment and prospective tenants. You have to be able to conceive of the tenancing, said Kieser.

5. The alternatives should be fiscally positive to the city and the Redevelopment Agency.

6. Alternatives should meet BART joint development objectives and standards.

Here Oewel brought up housing, saying, "the housing element has obvious positives in being next to BART. There has to be a lot of emphasis applied to that. It would be high-density and market-rate. It needs to be considered."

Although autos will always provide the major means of access to any of these land uses, said BART's Orday, we need to strive toward those uses that provide more transit rather than less.

Here the tension between BART's regional purpose and the community's desire for local-serving businesses came to light.

"At the workshop, we heard loud and clear," said Facilitator Carolyn Verheyen, "put emphasis on local-serving with some recognition of the regional-serving." She added, acknowledging Jeff Orday, "That is a bit of a contradiction. I understand."

7. Alternatives should create a flexible and adaptable urban context, recognizing the dynamic nature of retailing and allowing for opportunistic transition to higher or better uses.

The community principles from the public workshop should be added to this list, said Verheyen.

Alternatives

When the task force started generating alternatives, they once questioned whether they were allowed to use the PDG site. "If you have a Disposition and Development Agreement," said Kieser. "You cannot get out of that. You will be sued."

However, because the community voiced so much support for the Prince of Wales Institute's Del Norte plan, the task force decided to include an alternative that used the PDG site for parking, relocating the PDG retail.

Redevelopment Program Manager Elisa Tierney said she would have to consult legal council regarding the possibility for negotiations. Such matters need to be addressed very delicately with developers, if at all, said Kieser. Both Oewel and Kieser agreed that a broken contract could cost the Agency between \$10 million and \$15 million.

The task force also went off on several tangents left over from the community workshop, such as the idea of a catwalk over San Pablo, from the Del Norte BART station to the PDG site, and changes to San Pablo. Kieser said he did not think either of these ideas were feasible.

Although the task force will meet to flesh out these scenarios, the basic ideas include: A. Entertainment (movie theater), retail and housing; A2. Retail and housing; B. Institution (educational, medical, day care, etc.), housing, retail; C. A Prince of Wales-type plan, using the west side of San Pablo for parking, moving the PDG retail over to the BART parking lot, and putting a pedestrian bridge over San Pablo.

Multi-media Notes

■ Bill Mann

A Royal Send-Off: What was needed in the initial coverage after Di's tragic death was that was a lot more incisive than what I saw in mainstream, non-tabloid media: Di good, bad; Charles cold, Diana warm; plus...KGO's **Mary Ellen Geist** (and several other local news people were in mourning! (Imagine!) Then the same TV file footage over and over, which seemed odd, considering that Diana was the photographed woman in the world. What was reported or stated much at first: That it was the driving the Mercedes, not photos, who killed her. Only after it was revealed the guy was speeding did the blame finally start to shift.

Look, I don't harbor any love for paparazzi, whom one Newsweek writer accurately said, "They're not journalists, they're stalkers." The gap between tabloids and the mainstream press in this country has narrowed tremendously these years, so U.S. network types should stop acting righteous.

When I was on a panel at the Bay Area TV News Directors' Assn. 11 years ago discussing the then-new phenomenon of tabloid TV, one in the room condemned "A Current Affair," such U.S. show — one created, by the way, by a man who now owns the Fox TV network, calling **Rupert Murdoch**. Everyone swore that station(s) would never carry such lowbrow, never run tabloid-type celeb stories in news. Now they're a staple at every TV station ("E! Copy," "ET," "Inside Edition," etc.), newsworthy every day newspaper.

A Fleet Street veteran once told me, "In my country, journalism is a profession. In mine, it's a trade." It's a trade here now, too, and all the ing in the world by some media types won't change this new reality.

More Royal Viewing: Speaking of the monarchy, if you haven't seen the film "Mrs. Brown," highly recommend it. Scottish stand-up comic **Connolly**, who also did a year on the medical sitcom "Head of the Class," is first-rate in his dramatic role here as Queen Victoria's (Judi Dench) head stableman, a guy who lifted her out of a year-funk after the death of Prince Albert (you know, the one in the can). And British actor **Anthony Sher**, as Benjamin Disraeli, is brilliant. Sheer seems sure to get nominated for Best Supporting Actor.

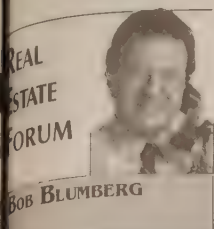
More Film: It's rare that I see two good movies in three months, leave alone one. But you also try to catch "In the Company of Men," the NY Times' **Janet Maslin** is calling the best of the year. And it may well be. The film was amazingly, on a \$25,000 budget, and it's about macho jerks and the cruel number they do to a woman. "ITCOM" has been called "politically correct" by the likes of **Camille Paglia**, but I strongly disagree. I've known one or two guys who are as homophobic as this. You can't watch this engrossing film without discussing it — at some length — your companions afterwards.

Multimedia Notes: Long-time KCBS and **Lois Melkonian** debuted on KGO-TV the other night. Under the videotape with her spot available, Melkonian stretched things out, chatting pleasantly with the anchors. I hope Melkonian knows what she's getting into. More than a few there have likened the Channel 2's news operations manager. It's at www.ktvu.com, and KTVU's sports-interest "Insider" site is at www.bayinsider.com. It's looking site...

Speaking of sports and this also being school week, it was a pleasure recently to drop and deliver my freshman daughter to Portland's first-rate Reed College, where intercollegiate sports are banned by charter as "an unnecessary intrusion into education." Having attended the football at the University of Oklahoma, I couldn't agree more. Sports-free Reed, poking fun at its leftist and traditional "school cheer" that might also be Berkeley High: "Lenin, Marx, Engels, Trotsky, gotta team that's really hotsky!" And you noticed that US News & World Report's big Rankings issue came out last week. A pretty way to choose a school for your kid, all things considered. And Reed was the only nationally ranked school not to participate in the USNS survey. So, some might ask, what's fall without football? It's called autumn.

I heard a familiar Bay Area radio voice on Portland's big newstalk station, KXL-AM. There: Long-time KNBR Radio newsmen **Max Provost** is now doing afternoon drive at KXL, being ousted when The Sports Leader drops news department here last year. A hopeful KXL also dropped **Rush Limbaugh's** fading tiresome show last week. Who still listens to guy? ... Some of us are fond of saying that stands for "Utterly Pointless Network." But which has mostly insulting black shows, making its fascinating new fall lineup last week, **Chuck D** went even further, calling UPN the "United Plantation of Negroes" and blasting "modern-day minstrel shows." ... Note to the widely disliked local TV anchor/reporter who punched a union picketer who showed up in background of a story the other day for "mini-shot." The picketer's union apparently caught whole incident on videotape.

Questions or comments? Please write Bill Mann at billmann@netcom.com or e-mail him at billmann@netcom.com



BOB BLUMBERG

We plan to exchange a small home property here for a property in western Massachusetts that our daughter can live in and manage. After this summer we went to take a look.

Northampton is a wonderful town, much like Berkeley, surrounded by colleges and culture. Lots of bizarre looking young people walking around. Since I have been a real estate broker for 23 years, I thought I knew my way around. Buying real estate cannot be that different in Massachusetts. We are, after all, part of the same country.

Yeah, right. Before we left, we located an agent on the Internet. I figured, if the agent is connected technologically, speaking, he/she should be relatively on top of things. I was right.

Our agent is a broker, and holds a GRI designation, the Graduate Realtors Institute, which involves a rather extensive battery of classes on matters concerning everything from construction detail to exotic

East is east, west is west; never the twain shall meet

financing. Her husband is a professor at the University of Massachusetts.

In the first communication we had over the Internet, Claudette informed us that her offices policy prohibited her from being a buyers agent. She asked if that was acceptable to us. Of course, I said, without hesitation.

Our buyers always have representation, although not necessarily exclusive. I assumed she meant we

sive agent. We would then pay a portion of the commission. We learned that commissions are handled differently. Sellers do not pay as much — or any — commission to the buyer's agent, so the buyer has to pick up the tab.

That would be OK with us, but Claudette had done a lot of preparation in the months we had been communicating. If we started over with another agent, we would have

She asked how much we wanted to offer. We told her; she wrote it down. No discussion. We could not tell her if we would be willing to pay more.

How odd! In my practice, my clients bare their souls to me, and I guard their confidences with every fiber of my being. I never disclose to the seller what the buyer is willing to pay. That is the law. Likewise, when I am representing a seller and a Red Oak agent brings in the buyer, I cannot disclose to the buyer that the seller would be willing to take less for the property. Our agency disclosure clearly explains this to every buyer or seller prior to signing a contract.

The east-west differences escalated from there: When Claudette prepared our offer, she pulled out a one-page form, letter sized. What is that? I asked. That's the offer.

In spite of ourselves, we broke out laughing. That was it, one letter-sized page? Our offer forms begin with six legal pages before addenda. The Massachusetts form had the following information, with no space for alteration: Price; ten day inspection; termite (seller pays first \$1,000, can cancel agreement if over that amount unless buyer pays); fi-

On the plane coming home, I thought to myself how dull life would be if everything was the same everywhere you go.

would not have her exclusive representation. When we arrived in Claudette's office, she explained that she would be representing the seller exclusively. She said we should not tell her anything that we would not want the seller to know. Nothing, I asked? Nothing. We should assume that her ears were the ears of the seller.

At that point, we discussed options. We could sign up with an agent from another office who would be a buyers agent, our exclu-

sive agent. We would then pay a portion of the commission. We learned that commissions are handled differently. Sellers do not pay as much — or any — commission to the buyer's agent, so the buyer has to pick up the tab.

That would be OK with us, but Claudette had done a lot of preparation in the months we had been communicating. If we started over with another agent, we would have

to spend much time and energy. We decided to proceed with Claudette. As it turned out, this agency relationship was very peculiar. We liked Claudette. She was obviously very bright and hard working. But we held back. When we found a property we wanted, we felt we could not act excited.

Economy expands; interest rates rise

On Aug. 28 Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey showed that the nationwide average for the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage rose 12 basis points from last week's average of 7.46 percent to 7.58 percent. At the end of the fourth week of August 1996, the 30-year fixed rate mortgage averaged 8.09 percent.

The average start-rate for the one-year Treasury-indexed adjustable rate mortgages (ARMs) rose 6 basis points from last week's average of 5.56 percent to 5.62 percent. A year ago the average start rate for the one-year ARM stood at 5.75 percent.

This week's average for 15-year fixed-rate mortgages, a popular option in the refinancing market, rose 13 basis points from last week's 6.99 percent to 7.12 percent. This time last year this rate was 7.60 percent.

"Rates crept up this week over worries that the economy is growing too fast but we don't think this rise will be the trend," said Freddie Mac chief economist Robert Van Order.

"Rates have been stable for

close to three months and should remain in the seven-and-one-half percent range for the near term." This year Freddie Mac celebrates the 26th consecutive year of the Primary Mortgage Market Survey having tracked mortgage interest rates since 1971.

Freddie Mac is a stockholder-owned corporation chartered by Congress in 1970 to create a continuous flow of funds to mortgage lenders.

The organization supplies lenders with the money to make mortgages and then packages these mortgages into marketable securities. In this way Freddie Mac sustains a stable mortgage credit system and reduces the mortgage rates paid by home buyers.

Over the years, Freddie Mac has opened the doors for one in six home buyers and two million renters in America. More information about Freddie Mac can be found on the company's Web site.

On July 31 the Federal Home Loan Bank Board pegged the

See RATES, page 18

COLDWELL BANKER

THE PREMIER REAL ESTATE COMPANY

SINCE 1906

FIRST TIME OPEN

- 1048 SUNNYHILLS - Crocker Highlands - New Listing. Sunny & bright Colonial. Spacious & gracious rooms, 3-BD/2+BA, many details of the 1920's. What curb appeal. **RUBY NG**.....\$439,000
- 7117 SNAKE RD. - Montclair - Fabulous view, level yard. 4BD/3BA + 2 kitchens. E-Z commute. Ideal for gracious living. **DELL ORR**.....\$389,000
- 5978 ASCOT - Piedmont Pines - New Listing! Contemporary on over 1/2 acre. Very private, beamed ceiling, 3BD/2.5BA, 2-car garage. **KAREN LUM**.....\$339,000
- 3401 JORDAN RD. - Space galore! - Redwood Heights traditional, 3BD/2BA, family room w/bar & fireplace, 700 sq. ft., play room w/hot tub + 2-car garage. **VICKY FAULK**.....\$296,000
- 5358 BRYANT AVE. - Rockridge - Sunny 2BD bungalow located above College Ave. Gorgeous kit, fml DR, hwd flrs & lg bsmt. Fenced yd w/brick patio & fruit trees. **DARCY DIAMANTINE**.....\$265,000
- 5420 LAWTON - Rockridge Cutie! New Listing! - Charming cosmetic fixer. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath. Great location. **DON COELHO**.....\$230,000

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 4:30 PM

- 85 HILLCREST.....CLAREMONT.....7BD/5BA.....\$925,000.....LYNNE BANTLE
- 21 CAPTAINS COVE.....HILLER HIGHLANDS.....4BD/4BA.....\$425,000.....OLLIE HAMMEREL
- 958 WARFIELD.....LAKESHORE.....3BD/2BA.....\$307,000.....RUBY NG/KAREN LUM
- 8311 ASTER AVE.....OAKLAND HILLS.....2+BD/1BA.....\$169,000.....RUTH LOCKHART

BY APPOINTMENT • 339-1174

OAKLAND ★ MONTCLAIR ★ PIEDMONT ★ ALAMEDA

POOLSIDE AFTERNOON!.....\$1,500,000

Sunny 1+ acre estate has rural ambience and easy commute. Gated, 5+BD/4+BA, guest cottage plus more! **Ruth Lockhart**

ULTIMATE PRIVACY.....\$750,000

Very private, secluded, dramatic home. Spectacular views, security gate, pool & game room. Sauna, gym and more, much more. **Don Coelho**

UPPER CROCKER HIGHLANDS.....\$479,000

Beautifully maintained 3BD/2BA with family room and large sunny yard, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, master bedroom suite. **Dian Hymer**

HILLER HIGHLANDS - JUST LISTED.....\$425,000

Upgraded 4BD/4BA home w/3 master suites. Maple hwd flrs, Corian counter tops. Views of SF & bridge. **Ollie Hammerel**

MONTCLAIR TRADITIONAL.....\$339,000

Old world charm w/bay windows, French doors, built-ins & beautiful hwd flrs. 3BD/2BA, pretty living rm, formal dining and fenced yard. **Dian Hymer**

CROCKER HIGHLANDS TRADITIONAL.....\$322,500

Desirable Crocker Highlands with 3BD/2BA, formal dining w/built-ins, separate breakfast room + room for home off. Enchanting garden. **Dian Hymer**

TRADITIONAL CHARM.....\$329,000

Enjoy traditional style, private park-like setting & great outdoor living in this 3BD/2BA Montclair home. 2 frpls, rec rm, updated kitchen. **Dian Hymer**

5 BEDROOMS!.....\$299,500

Master suite on main level. 4BD/2BA upstairs. Enjoy spacious living room, formal dining, eat-in-kitchen, family room and more. **Ruth Lockhart**

SECRET GARDEN.....\$289,000

3BD/1.5BA home with sun room overlooking lush garden of exquisite flowers and shrubs on .58 of an acre. **Joan Alford**

OPPOR-YOU-NITY!.....\$285,000

Be the landlord for this classy 4-unit apartment house. Close to downtown, low vacancy, huge 1 bedroom units. **Fritz Hochfellner**

REDWOOD HEIGHTS - NEW LISTING!.....\$259,000

All level entry on cul-de-sac. 3BD/1.5BA + family rm, w/wet bar and fireplace. Attractive landscaped gardens. Includes extra lot. **Adriana Giacomelli**

MONTCLAIR.....\$254,000

Bright contemporary w/vaulted ceiling. Bask in sun on deck off living room. Creekside setting. Huge rec & family room, fenced front garden w/lawn, level in from 2-car garage. **Ruby Ng/Karen Lum**

LOADS OF SPACE!.....\$255,000

Light, airy, spacious 3BD/2BA + rumpus room, plus or 4th BD, large sunny yard, storage. **Vicky Faulk**

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 4:30 PM

- 1345 THOUSAND OAKS.....ALBANY.....2BR/1.5BA.....\$280,000.....DIANE VERDUCCI
- 545 PIERCE ST. #1101.....ALBANY.....2BR/2BA.....\$149,900.....KAREN BRAND
- 545 PIERCE ST. #2211.....ALBANY.....2BR/2BA.....\$159,500.....KAREN BRAND
- 902 SAN BENITO.....BERKELEY.....3+BR/1.5BA.....\$429,000.....RITA ZWERDLING
- 767 SAN DIEGO RD.....BERKELEY.....4BR/2.5BA.....\$419,000.....BARBARA MARIENTHAL
- 1933 BARRYMAN.....BERKELEY.....4BR/1.5BA+COTT.....\$369,000.....DAVE MOSS
- 1604 JOSEPHINE.....BERKELEY.....TRIPI EX.....\$269,000.....SALLY HENDRICKSON
- 1201 PERALTA.....BERKELEY.....2BR/1BA.....\$225,000.....GILDA WALDMAN
- 773 NEILSON.....BERKELEY.....2BR/1BA.....\$210,000.....CHRIS COHN
- 2545 MILVIA.....BERKELEY.....3BR/1.5BA.....\$164,000.....THE LONGS
- 1050 CONTRA COSTA DR.....EL CERRITO.....4BR/4BA.....\$595,000.....HENRY CHANG
- 160 ARLINGTON.....KENSINGTON.....4+BR/3+BA.....\$650,000.....CHRIS COHN
- 182 43RD ST.....TEMESCAL.....2BR/1BA.....\$169,000.....PAMELA DENISON

BY APPOINTMENT • 486-1495

BERKELEY ★ KENSINGTON ★ ALBANY ★ EL CERRITO ★ RICHMOND

FABULOUS KENSINGTON ESTATE

FULL OF POTENTIAL.....\$650,000
JUST LISTED! Several grand rooms, 11 in all including den/library family room & large room perfect for multi-media complex. 4BR, 3+BA, formal dining, 3 fireplaces on almost 1/3 acre. Rare opportunity to shape this classic into a real beauty.

ELEGANT DUPLEX NEAR

THE ROSE GARDEN.....\$399,000
Perfect for owner occupant. 2 & 3 bedroom units with bay views and hwd flrs. Charming English style exterior, super North Berkeley location near park, tennis and Gourmet Ghetto.

TRADITIONAL SPLIT LEVEL

IN 1000 OAKS.....\$345,000
Hwd flrs in good condition, 3BR, views & very private garden with roses. Breakfast rm with built-ins & laundry area. Interior access to garage is a plus.

BEAUTIFULLY DESIGNED

BERKELEY TOWNHOME.....\$295,000
Fantastic renovation! 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, fireplace, hardwood floors, more. Private rear unit with private yard. Walk to Gourmet Ghetto.

ELMWOOD ELEGANCE.....\$269,000

Victorian raised basement cottage with lush English garden! Softwood floors throughout, gorgeous wood detailing, updated kitchen with breakfast nook, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath plus formal dining. You must see this sweetheart!

GREAT OPPORTUNITY.....\$269,000

Well-located triplex has spacious, sunny owner's unit w/attic to develop plus a one bdrm and a studio! Great garden potential. Steps from Gourmet Ghetto.

BROWN SHINGLE DUPLEX

IN NORTH OAKLAND.....\$259,000
Charm, sunny & bright! 2BR owners unit & 2BR rental. View. Lovely, private fenced yard, newly painted. Also in-law down. Could be lg 4BR house.

REDUCED IN ALBANY. READY TO GO!.....\$259,000

Spacious 3 bedroom, 1 bath, centrally located in Albany. Move in time to enjoy the Solano Stroll! Lots of fun at your doorstep: movies, theatre, boutiques, gourmet restaurants and super schools. Unusually large yard for Albany with fruit trees and play structure.

LOVELY NORTH BERKELEY CONDO.....\$237,500

Extraordinary location. Walk to Gourmet Ghetto, or campus. Spacious and sunny 2 bedrooms with tiled kitchen and large deck. One of only 5 units.

COZY, SUNNY BERKELEY HOME.....\$225,000

2BR/1BA home with a lovely garden in a great neighborhood! Close to shopping & transportation. In move-in condition!

HANSEL & GRETEL'S COTTAGE

IN BERKELEY?.....\$220,000
You must see this one. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, stone fireplace, large yard with fruit trees. Great use of stone, wood and plaster to create fairy tale house.

TEMESCAL STARTER

ON DEAD END STREET.....\$169,900
JUST LISTED! Adorable home in best Temescal location. 2BR, 1BA with large updated kitchen, sunny yard, separate garage, wood floors, skylights & fireplace in master bedroom. Plus lots of storage.

RARE 3 BEDROOM ALBANY CONDO.....\$169,000

JUST REDUCED! Large 3 bedroom, 2 bath contemporary style condo with balcony and fireplace in 4-unit building. Great location close to schools, transportation and shopping.

LOFT IN SCHOOLHOUSE.....\$149,900

Walk to Piedmont Ave. shops and cafes! French Provincial building now houses gorgeous live/work spaces. Softwood floors, wall of windows, high ceilings. Attic expansion possible in this one.

ELEGANT MCGREGOR STYLE IN SUPER

LOCATION.....\$
Near Solano Ave. & schools, a lovely split-level 2BR/1.5BA home! Beautiful hwd flrs, high ceilings & lots of windows! Well landscaped private garden.

BAY AREA LEADER IN HOMES LISTED AND SOLD

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Expect the best.™

1495 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley • 486-1495
E-Mail: berkeley@coldwellbanker.com

Blumberg...

Continued from page 17

nancing; date of financing approval; date of close.

The real purchase agreement, the one with all the nuts and bolts, is prepared within ten days — you guessed it — by attorneys, one each for the buyer and seller. Attorneys also do the title search. California real estate agents prepare the vast majority of purchase agreements in total, and title companies do the title search.

Other differences: Termite reports there cover insects, nothing more. They do not cover dry-rot or fungus. Many properties in New England are old, very old. In California, a property built in 1910 is old.

Most properties we saw were built in the 1800s, and more than a few were built in the 1700s. The town where we purchased was settled in the 1600s! Many of the properties we saw were in relatively poor condition and would be considered major fixers at home.

Heat is a big consideration: natural gas, electric, or oil? There is a big difference in cost. Oil tanks reside in or under old basements, patiently waiting for their fall fill-up. Or not. For some reason water heaters are sometimes leased. Don't ask me why.

Some properties, including the one we purchased, have private septic systems. That is a subject for a

whole chapter. Foundations are concrete, brick or cinder block. Earthquakes are simply not a concern. In fact, brick construction is considered desirable, since it is termite resistant.

Radon tests are common (we ordered one), but lead-based paint is the big environmental issue. Many properties are de-lead prior to sale, a very expensive procedure.

Tax deferred exchange? The sellers attorney was totally confused. He said he did not want the seller to own property in California. I asked my California exchange facilitator to call him and explain that we were talking about a tax exchange, not an actual one.

My facilitator wanted to fax the information to the attorney, or direct him to his Web site. The attorney did not have a fax machine, or, for that matter, a computer. I am sure most attorneys in New England have fax machines and computers. This one did not.

On the plane coming home, I thought to myself: how dull life would be if everything was the same everywhere you go.

Bob Blumberg is in his 23rd year of listing and selling local real estate. He is co-owner and cofounder of Red Oak Realty, Top of Solano, Berkeley. Contact him at 527-3387 (x132), or blumberg@holonet.net. And be sure to visit Red Oak's Web site (www.redoakrealty.com) for current multiple listings and news!

Taking a closer look at a credit report

One of the more essential mysteries of the mortgage process is the credit report. The first question is, "Why does this cost \$50 when I can run a consumer TRW (credit report) for \$10 to \$15?"

A full Residential Mortgage Credit Report (RMCR) is a triple search of Equifax, Experian/TRW and TransUnion credit reporting bureaus with a public records search. In this part of the country, most of the credit reporting services use only the first two bureaus unless the lender requests a third. If this were the Midwest or East Coast, TransUnion would be the primary.

The RMCR also verifies your address and employment history for at least two years. It advises the broker as to recent credit inquiries (within the last 90 days) and gives a

Rather than ordering individual reports from each of the credit reporting bureaus, they combine the reports in a comprehensive and simple format, according to a spokesperson at the company. A very large part of their job is customer service and research. Once we receive the credit report, there may be issues and disputes that must be addressed.

One of my clients was doing a debt consolidation, primarily for credit card debts. As we were going through the credit report we found a Bank of America Visa, with a \$7,000 payoff that wasn't his. After doing the research the NCCS issued a supplement verifying that it was not his account. This took place in about three days. Had we tried to handle it by telephone, fax and mail

Rather than ordering individual reports from each credit reporting bureau, all the reports are combined into one comprehensive format.

credit score, a relatively new system devised to standardize the credit reporting system. A RMCR complies with all FNMA (Fannie Mae), FHLMC (Freddie Mac), FHA and VA guidelines.

The credit reporting service that Montclair Mortgage uses is Northern California Credit Service (NCCS). I like their reports because they are easy to read and explain to our clients.

ourselves, it would have taken weeks.

The credit report history has eleven headings to describe the history:

- Kind of business and account number.
- Date reported and method of reporting. Method of reporting indicates how a trade item was placed in file. The two methods would be either by computer or manual.

MORTGAGE MADNESS

KAREN SENZIG

Manual input would result from additional research such as updates, corrections and supplements.

• Date the account was opened (month and year).

• The highest amount of credit granted for this account or installment loan.

• The term (if installment loan—how many months it is amortized) and payment amount. If the account is a revolving debt (credit card) and there is no payment listed, then the payment is assumed to be percent of the balance. If it is an installment loan and there are less than ten payments remaining, the lender will not count that debt when qualifying the borrower.

• The balance owing on the account.

• Whether the account is currently delinquent.

• Present Status: There are three types of credit -

I — Installment debt such as a real estate loan, auto loan, signature loan or any loan that is amortized over a period of years;

R — Revolving debt such as credit cards;

O — Open debts where the balance must be paid off monthly such as

an American Express card.

Also included in status is very important usual payment. The payment is ranked from zero to nine. A zero means the account is too new. One means paid as agreed. Two through five indicates payment was received 30, 60, 90, 120 days late but not yet in collection.

A seven (for some reason, no six) means the borrower is making regular payments under an Earning plan or similar agreement. An eight indicates a repayment plan. A "V" means that money was voluntarily returned by the borrower. A nine means that the debt, placed for collection, is untraceable.

• The number of months of history reviewed - up to 72 or 84 months.

• How the credit is held:

I — Individual account liability.

J — Joint account liability.

A — Authorized user only.

C — Co-maker.

S — Signer on account.

See MADNESS, page 19

Rates...

Continued from page 17

11th District Cost of Funds Index (COFI) for August payments at 4.853 percent, down slightly from the 4.864 percent that was in effect for July payments. The COFI

for September payments will be set today after 3 p.m. Call (415) 616-2600 to hear the new index.

The COFI is the index widely used by the savings and loan industry for its adjustable rate mortgages.



PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.



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Real Estate Brokerage

3223 Blume Drive, Richmond
222-8870

EL CERRITO

FANNIE MAE OWNED / Super Area.....\$174,950
Great financing! 2BR, 1BA with 1-car garage, fireplace, over 900 sq. ft. #W41523 Jack Burns Jr. 707-864-8340

FABULOUS NEIGHBORHOOD.....\$215,000
2BR, 1BA, garage, fireplace, nice backyard, long driveway for RV, formal dining, hardwood floors. #W41531 Ed Messner 510-799-3527

COMPLETELY UPDATED.....\$225,000
3BR, 2BA huge master suite, fireplace, hardwood, workshop, dual pane windows, central heat, large lot, attached garage. #W41631 Jamie Lake 510-843-9017

PRICE REDUCTION / WHAT A DEAL!!!.....\$379,000
Open Sun 2-4, 8590 Terrace (on Moeser). 3BR with den, 2.5BA, 8 years old. Family room, huge finished basement could be in-law or au pair, 2-car attached garage, RV parking, large private yard. Home approx. 2,783 sq. ft. #W41333 Geri Stern 510-234-7808

MAJESTIC COLONIAL DREAM HOME IN THE HILLS.....\$479,000
3BR, 2.5BA, on 3 lots (.40 Acre), bay view! 2-car garage with 2 parking spaces. Approx. 2,880 sq. ft., formal dining, 2+ frpls, hwd floors, circular driveway. One of a kind!!! #W41261 Ernie Spenser 510-223-4960

RICHMOND VIEW

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY / FOR SALE OR LEASE.....\$795,000
12380 San Pablo Ave. Former Smith Jeep-Auto Sales, prime commercial property on high visibility corner, 1 block north of Barrett Ave. at I-80. 6,717 sq. ft. bldg., 11,938 sq. ft. land, corner lot. Carla Della Zoppa 510-222-4005

ADORABLE REMODELED BEAUTY.....\$147,950
3BR, attached garage, big deck and shady yard with fruit trees, flowers and a white picket fence! New kitchen and bath tile. #W41352 Cynthia Burke 510-262-0940

PERFECT STARTER IN THE HILLS.....\$159,950
3BR, 1BA solid home w/nearly new roof, dual pane windows, 2-car attached garage, yard, fireplace, quiet street, over 1,300 sq. ft. #W41888 Carla Della Zoppa 510-222-4005

RICHMOND HILLTOP

SUPER CONDO WITH LOFT.....\$92,900
1BR, 1BA. Elegant! Upstairs loft for den/office. Mint condition! FHA approved EZ financing. All appliances included. #3726 Magany Abbass 510-2339-7329

POINT RICHMOND

GREAT CONDO - WHY PAY RENT?.....\$69,900
1BR, 1BA, new carpets, fresh paint, loaded with upgrades, private deck, super quiet, special financing with low down payment. #W40887 Magany Abbass 510-233-7329



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HANNAH GOODY



Enticing & Gracious

Sunny and airy, quality 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, San Francisco, Golden Gate and Mt. Tam views. Master bedroom suite, study/library. Large deck for entertaining. Open Sunday, September 7, 2-4.

\$339,000

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BERKELEY HILLS REALTY

1714 Solano Ave. • (510) 524-9888

MARVIN GARDENS

REAL ESTATE



SPECTACULAR G.G. BRIDGE VIEW!

\$299,000

Landscaped deck faces San Francisco and bridges view. Beautifully remodeled kitchen has oak cabinets and all the amenities. Four bedrooms, two baths, two fireplaces and a family room used as an in-law unit. Herman Sun 527-9111, 466-5842

7502 FAIRMOUNT AVE, EL CERRITO • 527-9111

When it's your move...

UPPER ROCKRIDGE



5016 Cochrane Ave.

Beautiful Normandy Style home on outstanding large lot with exquisite landscaping, trellises, fish pond, patio, deck and yard, topped off with Bay views. Four bedrooms, three baths, two family rooms, French doors, crown moldings, hardwood floors, granite counter tops and a "dumb waiter"!

What more can one ask for?

Open Sunday, September 7th • 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Shirley Sutton

UNITED CALIFORNIA BROKERS

510-299-4578



NEW CONSTRUCTION

Montclair's Newest Estate Development



MONTCLAIR
VALLE VISTA

OPEN SUNDAY • 2-5:00 p.m.

6054 Mazuela — Just completed. Exquisite Med. with contemporary blending. 4BR/4.5BA + master bedroom with sitting area. Gourmet kitchen with adjoining Great Room with soaring ceiling. Dramatic features galore! Bay & canyon views. \$850,000.

6066 Mazuela — Traditional two story home with 5BR/4.5BA, featuring vaulted ceilings, interior columns and lavish but tasteful use of granite & marble. Other features include gourmet kitchen w/ adjoining Great Room, 2 family rooms, plus fabulous master BR retreat with magnificent Bay and SF vistas. Gorgeous home. \$925,000.

6101 Mazuela — Approx. 4,500 sq. ft. temporary. 4BR/3.5BA + study. \$889,000. **Sold**

6111 Mazuela — Approx. 4,500 sq. ft. view traditional 5BR/4BA, study, 2nd floor master's & useable backyard. \$869,000. **Sold**

6140 Mazuela — Spacious contemporary. approx 4,900 sq. ft. magnificent retreat, 4BR/4.5BA + study. \$999,000. **Sold**

6095 Mazuela — Spectacular 3-story home. \$850,000. **Pending**

LOTS

6012 Mazuela — Gentle upslope lot with relatively level building area. Magnificent Bay & SF views. Approx. 13,500 sq. ft. \$260,000.

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Keeping score; but is it fair?

By H. W. Moss

To loan or not to loan, that is always the question. Your credit score is a number which assists in making that lending decision. Like a pass or fail grade on a report card, lenders want to see a certain number turn up on your credit score when you apply to them for money. If you are alive, somewhere there is a credit report on you. A credit score shows up on your credit report. Credit scores are a statistical method of determining how likely a borrower is to pay back a loan. They can be thought of in terms of the odds that will happen. Lenders actually receive odds sheets from the publisher of the credit score which tell them the probability that if they make a loan to someone with a specific credit score, it will or will not be paid back.

Fannie Mae a player

Although credit scores have been around for decades, they have recently taken on more widespread use. Fannie Mae issued guidelines last October on credit scores and as a result home loans are being made based on them.

"While we don't require the use of credit scores, they are becoming a major factor in the way we do business," said Kate Fralin, a Fannie Mae spokesperson. "We continue to believe that a loan should never be approved or declined solely on the strength of a credit score."

Is simple good?

But life for the credit manager is

so much easier with a credit score. Instead of reading through the entire boring credit report, the manager can look at just one single number and be able to back up their decision of whether or not to process the loan. If the applicant makes the cutoff of a particular lender is using that day, the applicant gets the money for their new car. Otherwise, the borrower is out of luck.

We are going to extrapolate on that idea. But first, a truth or two about credit scores and risk. All lenders do not use the same credit score number as a cutoff. In fact, there is no right or wrong credit score number. It's more a ball park concept. And even if you have a marginal credit score, talking to the credit maker can change the deal.

Credit score levels

Credit scores can theoretically change daily. At the moment, this depends on the reporting agency and how fast they retrieve certain information. A lower score means you are a greater risk. Now, everyone knows you get higher returns by taking more risk. Why not tailor the loan amount, fees, interest rate, terms and conditions of the home loan to rates of return at different credit score levels?

Suddenly a huge market opens up that allows lenders to place loans that were once considered unmakeable. A cynic might say credit scores carried to that extreme will take the human element out of the lending equation. A business

See MOSS, page 23



TARPOFT & TALBERT

Number 210 in a series of true experiences in real estate.

I grew up in Oakland, a city girl, but I had the good fortune to also spend quite a lot of time in the country. I visited my aunt Wilma, my mother's younger sister, and her husband Bob at their ranch in Napa.

At home, the houses closely lined our block, there were several grocery stores nearby, and we played and occasionally had weenie roasts in our backyard. At Wilma and Bob's no other houses were visible and, no matter where I happened to be, I could not see all of the 50 acres of land they owned.

To get to the edges of the property, it was necessary to walk through the rough clods of dirt in the orchards or along dusty roads, distances my younger cousins could find long. If there was a grown-up with us on a walk to a border, at least one child was sure to plead, "Please 'pack' me."

We cousins were out-of-doors all waking hours thinking up one thing after another to do. We made houses with connecting rooms by stomping down the long grass in the fields, crawled inside and stayed low, pleased that the sweet grass walls hid us from outside view.

We went barefoot all of the time, learned to quickly sit down, extract stickers from our feet, leap up and run gaily on. We set up housekeeping and played store and school too, dragging blankets, dishes, books and empty cereal boxes out to the barn to make our games more real.

We pretended to bake bread in the big old stone oven with iron

Whispers from the past

doors built long ago near the lake; sat on the wooden bridge, swinging our feet, watching the ducks swim by.

There were dogs we sometimes tied to rope leashes so we could take them for walks. Once there were baby lambs we fed with baby bottles. There were chickens and usually a horse or two. Over time I learned to bridle a horse and lead him over to a corral fence from which I could climb onto his back.

On my 12th birthday I was able to bridle and saddle a horse without assistance, allowed to ride through the orchard ducking under the trees, and I remember thinking, "This is the best of life."

We pretended to bake bread in the big old stone oven with iron doors; sat on the wooden bridge, swinging our feet, watching the ducks swim by.

Every Fourth of July, my birthday, (I found it quite wonderful that everyone in the country was celebrating my birthday), aunts and uncles and my grandparents who lived nearby came to the ranch for a party.

My grandmother made my favorite chocolate cake, we ate dinner at the big table. There were presents for me and, after dark, my grandfather lit fireworks. He nailed pinwheels to the fence in front of the house and set them off in spectacular succession.

Usually the migrant workers arrived to pick fruit after I was back in school in September, but a few times I was there to see the families making what I thought of as living rooms under the trees — blankets spread and layered with purses and food; babies and small children lolling while parents and older children picked fruit on wooden ladders.

I was very proud of my acquaintanceship with country life. I knew about tractors and "disks"

pulled behind them for plowing, the possible dangers of standing too close behind horses or otherwise startling them.

I knew first hand about hay-lofts, hay hooks and baled hay; also alfalfa, salt licks and auto-filling watering troughs. I'd watch as my grandfather chopped off chickens' heads, helped pluck the feathers, smelled the smell as the pin feathers were singed over the stove burner.

Occasionally I got to take a girlfriend with me to Napa and then I was the guide to the exotic. I showed my friend how to reach under a hen and take her eggs, warned her to look for a bee inside

us, and family dropped by all afternoon, joining in with our talk, our reminiscing.

Wilma and Bob grew up in Napa (as both my parents did), were high school sweethearts, married in late 1941, just as the war was starting. Bob was working for his dad at his milling company in town. They were living in a rental and began to search for their own place to buy.

"We looked up the valley at different properties but nothing was quite right," Wilma said. "Then we came out here and — I'll never forget it — Bob was a very fast walker. He walked all over the property, way ahead of the agent and me. We followed, trailing way behind."

"Bob liked it. The price was \$13,000 for 50 acres. We had a thousand dollars and Bob's dad loaned us the rest."

"The seller, Mrs. Heid, had raised nine children here. One of them lived up the road, another in town; the rest in other places. I think she was selling because there wasn't any other way to divide the property among them."

Included in the sale were French prune tree orchards, some apple and walnut trees, the house, a tank house, barns and sheds and two old wooden buggies that had been drawn by horses — complete with black leather seats and horse-whip holders.

As several of us sat at Wilma's table eating fresh tomatoes from her garden, we tried to decide how much money \$13,000 was in the early 1940s. Our only point of reference was my not-sure memory that my parents paid \$3,000 for their house in Oakland at about the same time.

No one said the obvious, that it had been a great investment, and I suppose that the reason we did not was that we all knew that making money was not their reason for buying.

They'd bought this particular place because, as Wilma said, "It hit Bob right," and because they wanted to make their home there.

Anet Tarpoft and Pat Talbert are licensed real estate agents and residential specialists who also offer hourly real estate consulting and coaching. They can be reached at 653-2050.

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won't end up with a gas station in your back yard. Density rules prevent apartment building adjacent to you while other rules keep the homes in your community compatible with what exists.

Zoning rules are anything but arbitrary. Each rule was derived from a long series of meetings and an effort to achieve consensus among community members. Zoning regulations reflect the prevailing community voice.

You should realize that in order to obtain a building permit, you will need to get the approval of both your local zoning and building departments. Building code regulations are the same from community to community in California and their aim is to ensure life safety. Zoning codes vary from city to city and their aim is to maintain the visual character of the specific community in which they apply.

Building codes call out requirements for everything from ventilation, to width of a stairway, to the strength and spacing of studs for a second story. Zoning codes restrict the physical envelop of a building as well as where it sits on a lot with such measures as maximum height and setbacks from the property line. While building codes effect how you must build an addition, zoning codes effect where and what you can build.

Each city has different quantitative and qualitative requirements for receiving zoning approval but there are some key issues that run from city to city.

The quantitative regulations typically include, maximum height, minimum unbuildable setbacks from the property line, minimum parking requirements, maximum buildable area per specifics lot, and open space requirements.

Many projects because of their location or size also fall into a special category requiring design review or the granting of a conditional use permit. Here, more qualitative issues are reviewed in by the zoning administrator and your neighbors such as how your building effects your neighbors' views or sunlight, or how compatible your roof form, fenestration and massing is with the character of the neighborhood. These reviews typically require an additional step to receiving zoning approval with separate fees and drawings.

If your thinking about adding an addition, early awareness as to how zoning will effect your project is crucial. You or your architect must become familiar with the zoning restrictions and the process for receiving zoning approval that apply to your project.

If you need to go through the

Early awareness as to how zoning will effect your project is crucial.

process of design review or receiving a conditional use permit, it is important that you carefully consider your proposed project.

If you hastily apply for approval, you may find that as your design is developed, you won't have room to squeeze in all the spaces you want; or you'll be faced with changing your building envelop and thus be required to re-apply for zoning approval.

Consider the best use of time and talents when seeking a building permit member that the design obtain zoning approval is that you and your family are calling home for years to

Deborah Lane, AIA, architect with an office in the Call her at 527-5677 with questions or comments.

Zoning laws

Many people first become aware of zoning laws when they go to their local building department to find out about getting a building permit for an addition they are considering. Often, they are told from the zoning officer that they cannot do what they have been thinking about for years because it doesn't comply with their city's zoning laws.

While from this vantage point, zoning regulations may appear arbitrary and punitive, it is helpful to realize that the restrictions create the fabric of the community that you are enjoying.

Realizing the genesis of zoning regulations and how they effect your community and the projects you are considering at

the outset will help you make the right start, ensure a smoother process and better results to your remodeling endeavor.

Since World War II both the federal government and the state of California have required that communities develop a master plan in order to receive both federal and state funding for projects.

The master plan calls out specific zones in the city with R as residential; I, industrial; M, manufacturing and C, commercial. It calls out the allowed density in each zone and then a host of more specific rules about development.

Zoning balances your right against your neighbors' and your communities'. The classification of zones ensures that your home

Gardening books to loan

The Oakland East Bay Garden Center Inc. has a library with emphasis on books on plants, gardening and horticulture.

The library has 300 reference books available for use at the library and 900 circulating books that circulate for a period of 30 days.

The books are available to all Bay Area residents for the small

annual fee of \$2. The library is located in the Garden Center building in Lakeside Park, 666 Lakeside Ave., Oakland, is open Thursdays 11:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (holidays). The public is invited to use the library and the other Center facilities.

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Madness...

Continued from page 18

T - Association terminated. The last box on the form indicates how many times the borrower has been late 30 days, 60 days or 90 days by account.

Public records follow the credit history. This area contains information regarding tax liens, judgments, any other lien that has been placed against the borrowers' name and social security number.

Inquiries for new credit follow public records. This is one of the most disputed parts of the credit report. Often we have seen credit reports from companies who have run a "credit check" report (\$15 report with public records or employment verification) without the clients' authorization or even awareness. They are not supposed to do this without it happens. Lenders are concerned with new credit inquiries because it often takes 90 days for an account to report whether or not credit was granted, the balance and payment.

At the end of the report are the borrowers' credit scores. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, those pseudo government agencies, worked with credit bureaus to standardize

the system. Each bureau has their own model but they are very similar in nature.

The scoring is based on a number of criteria, including but not limited to such things as: If the accounts are paid as agreed; Amount of credit granted and used; Whether there are items on the public records or collection filings; Number of accounts that are currently delinquent; Number of accounts reaching the maximum credit limit; Length of time since public filings.

The highest score I have ever seen was 815 (perfect credit) and the lowest was 480 (very poor credit). The above average borrower will have a credit score of 700 and above. The lenders will fall over themselves to grant these people a loan. Usually the minimum score for the best rates ranges from 660 to 680, depending on the lender. Scores below 520 usually require a hard money lender.

Karen Senzig is co-owner of Montclair Mortgage with her husband Scott. She can be reached at 339-8511, fax, 339-3814, e-mail at ksenzig@aol.com. Please contact her with any mortgage questions and/or topics for discussion.



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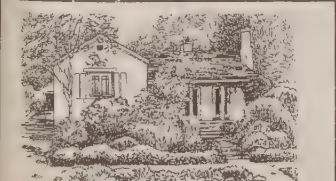
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2727 Las Aromas - \$490,000
4806 Lawton Ave. - \$148,000
81 Linda Ave. - \$218,000
4419 Moraga Ave. - \$285,000
2568 Oliver Ave. - \$125,000
4426 Pampas Ave. - \$171,000
7307 Sunkist Dr. - \$170,000
2705 Viola St. - \$190,000
PIEDMONT
56 Monticello Ave. - \$529,000
507 Moraga Ave. - \$384,500
341 Olive Ave. - \$280,000
29 Portsmouth Rd. - \$363,500
SAN LEANDRO
894 Devonshire Ave. - \$189,000
14906 Ebb Tide St. - \$225,000
16245 Maubert Ave. - \$131,500

3777 Monterey Blvd. - \$185,000
1504 Pearson Ave. - \$140,000
1661 Wayne Ave. - \$189,000
SAN LORENZO
15922 Bayberry Lane - \$227,000
16297 Galway Court - \$168,000
15729 P. Largavista - \$156,000
15905 Via Alamos - \$140,000
424 Via Cochese - \$153,000
1460 Via Manzanitas - \$205,000
144 Via Palos - \$197,000
1682 Via Tovita - \$155,000
SALES STATS BY CITY
ALAMEDA
TOTAL SALES: 5
LOWEST PRICE: \$142,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$307,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$220,200
BERKELEY
TOTAL SALES: 11
LOWEST PRICE: \$175,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$465,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$325,090
EL CERRITO
TOTAL SALES: 8
LOWEST PRICE: \$128,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$358,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$256,312
EL SOBRANTE
TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$122,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$194,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$155,583
EMERYVILLE
TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$110,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$191,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$139,333
KENSINGTON
TOTAL SALES: 12

LOWEST PRICE: \$210,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$875,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$361,791
OAKLAND
TOTAL SALES: 15
LOWEST PRICE: \$118,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$529,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$287,633
PIEDMONT
TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$280,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$529,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$389,250
SAN LEANDRO
TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$131,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$225,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$176,583
SAN LORENZO
TOTAL SALES: 8
LOWEST PRICE: \$140,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$227,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$175,125

This list was compiled for publication in the Hills Newspapers by TitleTech of Oakland which obtains weekly records from the county recorder's office.

Neither company guarantees accuracy or completeness of the information. Sales prices are estimated based upon applicable county transfer taxes.

All questions regarding this information and any requests for additional listings and services provided by TitleTech should be directed to Bud Gorham at 568-7233.

REAL ESTATE EDITOR PHONE 339-4047; FAX 339-4047

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PIEDMONT

Open Sunday 2 - 4:30 p.m.



160 WOODLAND WAY
NEW LISTING \$1,100,000
A gracious Piedmont Tudor w/ hardwood floors, family room, updated kitchen & pool. 4 bdrms/ 4.5 baths incl. master suite w/ fireplace. KURT BUCHHOLZ

101 SCENIC AVENUE
Central location w/smashing Bay views. Lovely English Tudor w/library, family room, 4/3+ ELIZABETH DICKSON

209 HILLSIDE AVENUE
A wonderful 2-story traditional home w/location & style. Open & sunny w/formal rooms & an attractive kit. SANDRA VOGL

37 SHARON AVENUE
Lovely colonial on a quiet street in central Piedmont. Wonderful SF Bay view. 4/3 w/rumpus to garden. JEAN SIMMONS

136 CAPERTON AVENUE
A classic home w/elegant living rm & sunny family rm. 2/2 on main level, 1/1 on lower level. Garden. J. O'SHAUGHNESSY

816 BLAIR AVENUE
Level-in & fully redesigned 3/3 home. Spacious living/formal dining, pvt. master & lower level rumpus. MINDY SCOTT

116 LATHAM STREET
Light & airy traditional w/spacious rooms. Updated kitchen level out to garden. 3/2. Well located. MELITTA BEESON

80 PORTSMOUTH ROAD
4+ good sized bedrooms/2 baths, large eat-in kitchen level out to landscaped decking & garden. ANGELA WEI GRUBB

140 SCENIC AVENUE
Terrific Bay views from living room, family room & decks. 3/3 w/good division of space. Hot tub on deck. "As is." A. GRUBB

161 RONANDA AVENUE
A sun-drenched contemporary w/newly updated kitchen & beautiful hardwood floors. Freshly painted 2/2. M. DELACROIX

423 LINDA AVENUE
Close to schools, shops & trans. Living room w/dining area & eat-in kit. 2/1 + studio/rec area w/bath down. B. BALESTRIERI

OAKLAND

Open Sunday 2 - 4:30 p.m.

29 HOLYROOD MANOR
Set on close to an acre, this fabulous view home combines traditional & contemporary design. 3+2.5. CONNIE ROGERS

2265 MELVIN ROAD
Custom-built 4/2 Colonial w/ Bay views. Situated on approx 1/2 acre w/huge hot tub. Approx 2500 sq. ft. of unfinished space w/permit. JUDY RANKANKAN

6686 LIGGETT DRIVE
Elegant Traditional situated in the Pied Side of Montclair w/ formal living & dining. Updated kit. & baths. DEBBIE DIMAGGIO

1545 TRESTLE GLEN ROAD
Crockier Highlands Mediterranean w/wonderful natural light throughout. 3/2 w/updated eat-in kitchen. ED KUO

3750 LAKESHORE AVENUE
Gracious 2-story Mediterranean home w/classic interior floor plan & spacious rooms. 3+ bdrms & bonus room. A. TUNNEY

6879 BRISTOL DRIVE
Sun-filled Contemporary w/dramatic, open spaces. 3/2 & den/home office. Low maintenance grounds. JAMES GARCIA

1832 MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD
Adorable starter home near Montclair Village. 2+ bdrms/2 baths, hrdwd floors & fresh paint. 2-car garage. E. DICKSON

5814 SNAKE ROAD
Secluded hideaway near the Montclair Village. Light & open with easy outdoor living. 2+ bedrooms/2+ baths, updated throughout. JUDY CAIN

BERKELEY

Open Sunday 2 - 4:30 p.m.

17 EUCALYPTUS ROAD
Charming two-story Brown Shingle with San Francisco views, leaded glass windows & secluded garden. Four bedrooms/ three baths and updated kitchen. LINDA MCCLAIN

2915 AVALON AVENUE
Spanish Monterey Mediterranean w/mahogany floors, beam ceilings & patterned tile floors. 4/3.5 w/commercial country kit, & separate studio w/kitchen & bath. As is. KAREN STARR

PIEDMONT

By Appointment

ELEGANT & GRACIOUS
A grand traditional home with exquisite details and surrounded by 1/4 of an acre of elegantly landscaped gardens, pool, spa and tennis court. E. DICKSON

THIS RESIDENCE IS JUST EXQUISITE
An estate quality home blending gorgeous old-world charm w/ functional perfection. Incredible landscaping. ANIAN TUNNEY

LOVELY CITY VISTAS
Architecturally grand & gracious w/elegant entry stairway, formal living/dining & spacious family room. GRUBB/TUNNEY

VIEW - VIEW - VIEW
A wonderful home w/great city views & beyond. Open stylish spaces, designer kitchen & gorgeous master. M. SCHWARTZ

LOVELY TRADITIONAL
Totally renovated w/huge eat-in kitchen & rumpus level to garden. Formal living & dining. 3/3. ANGELA WEI GRUBB

OAKLAND/BERKELEY

By Appointment

SERENE SETTING
Pied. Side of Montclair. A gracious home on 1+ acres offers 3/2+ incl. master w/fireplace. Garden w/pool & spa. A. GRUBB

BEAUTIFUL LANDSCAPING
Cheerful Ridgmont home at the end of a cul-de-sac, features a landscaped yard, family room & rec room. 4/3. S. BENNINGER

TOP-QUALITY 4-YEAR OLD
Low-maintenance Montclair home. 3+2+ family room & master. 2-car garage, decks & vaulted ceiling. S. GALLAGHER

CROCKER HIGHLANDS
Sunny Mediterranean w/hardwood floors & lovely rear garden w/deck. Redesigned kitchen & master bath. KAREN STARR

PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR
Enjoy easy living in this level-in home w/Bay & hill views. 3+2, family room, patios & deck. SHEILA GALLAGHER

PIEDMONT PINES RARE FIND
All-level 3/2 home w/gleaming hrdwd floors. Beautiful, large fenced yard on a private level knoll. Bay view. J. RANKANKAN

BEAUTIFULLY UPDATED
Spacious Crocker Highlands home. Lovely canyon & Oakland city views. 3/1 on main level, rumpus, 1/1 on lower level. JOHN KARNAY

TRESTLE GLEN
Cute English cottage w/3+ bdrms/2 baths, updated kitchen & peaceful canyon views. Terraced garden. JOHN KARNAY

PIEDMONT PINES LOT
Desirable location w/partial Bay view & easy access to Montclair Village. Location not in fire zone. SHEILA GALLAGHER

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339-0400



CALI-FLORA

JAN HALL

Oh, salvia, salvia let me count the ways that you enhance my garden. Variety is the spice of salvia. Salvias vary in flower color, time of blooming, shape, size, habit, and smell.

Salvia or sage is a perfect choice for deer-proof, low-water, low-maintenance and hummingbird gardens. There are over 600 species of salvia so the choices are vast.

A recent book on salvia called *A Book Of Salvia* by Betsy Clebsch (\$29.95) is a great resource for those of us that are smitten by the lovely variety of sages. It contains useful information on culture, habit, time of blooming and where to purchase salvia.

Betsy will be speaking at Berkeley Horticulture Nursery (1310 McGee Ave, Berkeley) on Saturday September 20th at 10:30 am — mark your calendar. I had the pleasure of hearing her speak earlier this summer and was able to pick up some useful gardening tips. *A Book of Salvia* is available at Berkeley Hort. I would suggest you pick the book up before the 20th, to peruse, so you can really enjoy Betsy's talk. Betsy will be signing her book after she speaks.

Betsy relates her experience with the many salvia she has grown in her garden located in the Santa Cruz mountains. It is rather a treat to read about plants I am interested in growing knowing that the information comes from a garden

Salvia: a love affair with the spice of life

not very far away from mine.

Salvia are a member of the mint family. Salvia exhibit that square stem that is characteristic of the mints. Some salvia are perennials others annuals. Growth habit can range from low and spreading to upright and very tall — over 6 feet. Colors range from red, yellow, blue, purple, salmon, white and even orange.

New favorite Salvias occupying prominent spots in our garden are Salvia mexicana and Salvia confertiflora and Salvia discolor.

Salvia mexicana is situated at the back of the garden against a wooden fence where it provides a floral and foliage backdrop. It was purchased this spring in a one gallon can and has now attained a height of six feet with a spread of three feet.

It began blooming at the end of July and is producing an array of midnight purple flowers which will continue for several months.

Salvia confertiflora is a herbaceous perennial that can reach six by six feet in one growing season. I planted it because it has huge, coarse, deep green leaves that provide a great visual back drop to

my garden. I was very pleasantly surprised by the addition of long spikes of orange flowers (spikes can attain 2 feet in length) appearing in mid July.

Salvia discolor is a spectacular foliage plant. It's leaves are blue gray on one side and white on the other. A dark purple flower, produced during warm spells, is not easily seen unless the plant has been situated in a pot where you get to view it near eye level.

Betsy takes cutting of her tender salvia to ensure that she will be able to replant if there is a cold winter. I intend to do the same, since these three salvia I have in my garden are easily killed by frost.

A Book Of Salvia is a welcome addition to my resource library. It is well written and reads easily. I bring the book to nurseries with me, since it is organized in a manner that information on each salvia is easily accessed. You may find it as useful a gardening tool as well

Jan Hall is the owner of Plympton Gardens, a garden design company. She can be reached at 758-6946.

Reverse mortgage video

Older homeowners discuss the advantages of "HouseMoney" in a free video offered by Transamerica HomeFirst. "HouseMoney" in a reverse mortgage plan that provides income to senior homeowners based on the equity in their homes. "HouseMoney" plans are de-

signed for people age 65 and over who own a home valued at \$75,000 or more. Homeowners interested in obtaining a copy of this 10-minute video should call (800) 538-5569 or write Transamerica, 505 Sansome Street, 11th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94111.

TERE

LEE

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HARBOR

REALTY

ALAMEDA

OPEN SAT. & SUN. 2-4 - 2959 SEAVIEW PARKWAY. 4 BD, 3 BA home. Panoramic view of the Bay! NO BOND. Marble entry, upgraded kitchen.

5 GARDEN - NEW LISTING! 3 BD on large lot. Many upgrades. NO BOND or HOA dues!

45 BAY PARK TERRACE. 3 BD, 2 1/2 BA townhome. Approx. 10 yrs. old. View of bridge & S.F. Gated community.

16 ROSS RD. 4BD, 3 BA home. Approx. 5 yrs. old. 1 BD/office down.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY. Wine, Liquor & Deli. 1 BD apt. Included.

SAN LEANDRO

OPEN SAT. 2-4 - 2521 GALLEON. 2 BD, 2 BA upper unit near golf & tennis

MARINA SEAGATE. Call for info on townhome listings.

OAKLAND

7953 STERLING. 3 BD, 1 BA home on large lot.

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY. In Downtown office building.

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9/7/97

29 HOLYROOD MANOR

Architecturally dramatic with panoramic views. Set on close to an acre this very fabulous home combines both traditional and contemporary design. There are three+ bedrooms, two and one half baths and a family room. Offered at \$599,000

For Information call: Connie Rogers at (510) 339-0400 Ext. 204 or (510) 658-9708

Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

Rid yourself of that waste

This weekend may be the time to clean out the garage or get rid of that unsightly pile in the back yard or the back corner of the house.

Perhaps you've been putting off the task because of "things" lying around you just don't know what to do with: the rest of that varnish from when you finally

got around to finishing that table, the oil from the last time you decided to save money and change the oil in the car yourself and or the half a can of smelly insecticide that worked so well on those invading critters (it's no wonder they left!)

If there were a way to quickly and conveniently rid your household of these unwanted items, you'd

certainly want to know about it. Well, Alameda County Household and Hazardous Waste is your answer.

This means that only a percentage of the waste makes it to a landfill.

To reach Alameda County Household and Hazardous Waste call (800) 606-6606.

To place a classified ad call 339-8777.

WELLS & BENNETT REALTY

531-7000

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 P.M.

3551 LAGUNA. Just listed Charming 3BD Tudor with.....\$169,500

huge, wonderful yard. Hardwood floors, formal dining, lovely, custom fireplace. Priced for fast sale. Don Dunning 482-2256

6041 GIRVIN RD. Golden Gate views from every room!.....\$598,000 3++ bedrooms including master suite with sitting room combo. Nearly 4,000 sq. ft. Mary Neuberger 530-4148

5911 MONZAL AVE. Incredible value! New construction.....\$549,000 Sunny 5 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, hardwood floors, granite counters, marble fireplaces. Nearly level yard. Joy Bryden ext. 218

15 ELSTON CT. Charming Glenview Mediterranean.....\$289,000 quiet cul-de-sac. 3BD/2BA plus 1 bedroom rental unit, yard and garage. Judy Farrell ext. 227

4138 COOLIDGE AVE. Secluded retreat. 2BD/2BA.....\$259,000 remodeled kitchen & baths, refinished hardwood floors + fresh paint low maintenance yard. Came Craig 357-7772

3291 MORCOM. New listing in Maxwell Park! 3+ bedroom.....\$179,000 Mediterranean charm, gorgeous new kitchen, family room attached garage, great street. Kate Phillips 436-4100

2836 RAWSON. Privately set amidst the trees! Light and.....\$189,000 charming three bedroom tastefully updated kitchen and bath. 2-car garage with interior access. Kate Phillips 436-4100

3365 WISCONSIN. Grandma lived here. Cute 1+ bedroom.....\$149,000 cottage w/large fam rm. Set on large, level lot. Holda Novelo 536-8888

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT

Real estate sales and prices are up! Call us today!

PRIVACY, VIEW, ACREAGE. 2.84 acres surround this.....\$685,000 3BD/2BA one level house. A large pool, pool house and horse set-up completes your private world. Noll Davis 531-9536

GLENVIEW TRIPLEX. Perfect for owner occupant. Nice.....\$309,000 2 bedroom, 1.25 bath with hardwood floors, formal dining room, breakfast room plus two-1BD apartments. Mary Neuberger 530-4148

WALK TO BART! Easy commute from this great brown.....\$250,000 shingle with updated kit, two bedrooms, sunroom. Judy Farrell ext. 227

CHARMING FIXER WITH POTENTIAL. Tudor home in.....\$247,000 lovely neighborhood needs attention. 3 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, large yard, hardwood. Judy Farrell ext. 227

CONTRACTORS! Home plus two non conforming.....\$185,000 live/work units, plus warehouse and workshop. North Oakland Anne Bruff 531-7006, ext. 283

NEW LISTING IN MAXWELL PARK! Spacious 2BD!.....\$151,000 1.5BA with family room, master bedroom with vaulted beam ceiling attached + det. garage - perfect for studio. Kate Phillips 436-4100

JUST MOVE RIGHT IN to this immaculate two bedroom.....\$149,000 home with new roof, lovely, remodeled kitchen, fireplace. Fenced garden. Termite work completed. Don Dunning 482-2256

AFFORDABLE! One bedroom condo. Good building.....\$66,000 close to Piedmont Avenue, transportation and shopping. Own instead of rent! Wendy Callaghan ext. 237

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DESIGNED FOR TODAY, TOMORROW.....\$475,000

and beyond! This prestigious Montclair home has all cust. conveniences & details everyone dreams of! 4BR, 3.5BA; bay view, FR, frt & bck spacious decks; fabulous mst w/view & deck.

NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

BUY LOCATION.....\$349,000

Oakmore charmer with formal dining, hardwood throughout, French doors and more! Traditional 2 story floorplan and 2 car attached garage!

PATRICIA BENNETT 482-9000

BARGAIN PRICE! MONTCLAIR HOME.....\$299,000

The best yard and the most interior space-for the price! Excellent condition-beautiful Montclair setting. Make a good investment

JENNIE LIPPINCOTT 655-7137

WATCH THE DUCKS AT THE PARK.....\$229,000

Your kids will love being so near to the lake. For fun feed the ducks or visit the playground or bandstand. You'll enjoy it too. 3BR, 1BA, full basement.

M. J. McCONVILLE 287-9583

THE FOLLOWING PROPERTIES EXCLUSIVELY LISTED. PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

YOUR REFUGE FROM THE CITY.....\$399,000

If you're tired of city hassles but love the convenience come see this perfect partnered duplex featuring 2BR, 2BA, ea. w/lrreplace. Minutes from town.

M. J. McCONVILLE 287-9583

NEWLY LISTED PIEDMONT AVE. 4-PLEX.....\$399,000

Brown shingle just off upper Piedmont Ave. has two 3BR units, hardwood floors, old fashioned charm. \$41K income per year

JIM SCHUBERT 436-6683

INNOVATIVE STYLE.....\$389,000

Characterizes this dazzling contemporary home in private Montclair location. Lots of unique lines, glass, skylights, wrap around private deck w/ fenced yard. 3BR, 2BA; master w/ sit rm.

NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

CARPET OF CITY LIGHTS.....\$349,000

Below you from this 3BR, 2.5BA home high in the hills above the city, yet only Minutes to town. Top location at bottom level price. 3-car garage.

M. J. McCONVILLE 287-9583

THREE STORY CONTEMPORARY.....\$339,000

Creates visual excitement and offers versatile interior for family/liv/office/comel 4BR 2BA, lots of glass; tree vistas; large mst & FR, high ceilings; unique arch. lines.

NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

BARGAIN IN MONTCLAIR?.....\$289,000

None will be better! Quiet location; wood detailing; wonderful rem. kitchen, breakfast room; private deck; garage entry; and 2BR, 2BA! Call to see this one now!

NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

DOLLARS MAKE SENSE.....\$239,000

When invested in this 4 plex in walking distance to Pied. Ave! All units charming w/hdwd flrs; 4 pkg spaces; extra storage; all occupied. Very desirable!

NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

MOVE RIGHT IN.....\$215,000

Redwood Heights home with large kitchen, family room level out to great back yard! Hardwood floors, updated systems, walk to shopping and parks.

PATRICIA BENNETT 482-9000

CHARMING AND PEACEFUL-POOL/SPA.....\$212,950

California Blossom. This gorgeous 2 yr old townhouse has excellent use of space in a convenient Fremont complex w/ great amenities.

ROSEMARY GREENE 635-9842

SINGLE LEVEL LIVING AT ITS BEST.....\$210,000

Super sharp 3BR home in prime San Leandro Estudillo Estates. Formal dining and eat-in kitchen, large rumpus room with 1/2 BA. Clean and ready. Don't delay!

EARLE SHENK 287-9590

SIP LEMONADE ON ROMANTIC PORCH.....\$199,000

Updated older, charming skylights and tile, potential for third BR and additional half bath. Great yard for gardeners, dogs or children; a must see.

CAROLYNN HARTLEY 283-9588

WELL PRESERVED.....\$180,000

1910 craftsman in great shape! Freshly painted throughout, carpet over hardwood floors plus big full basement ready for expansion! Sunny level yard!

PATRICIA BENNETT 482-9000

EVER FELT UNLOVED?.....\$179,000

So does this 3BR 2BA home: needs TLC; hardwood floors, large terraced yard, split level floorplan - good location at this price.

PATRICIA BENNETT 482-9000

NICE NEW INTERIOR AND BIG LOT.....\$175,000

Construction still underway in this spacious 3BR Maxwell Park beauty. Larger wooded lot adds serenity. Builder open to input from serious buyer.

ROSEMARY GREENE 635-9842

HUGE BEAUTIFUL FOURPLEX.....\$175,000

These well maintained 2BR units are king sized with hwdwd flrs garage and ample natural light. Good income and on a huge lot!

SEKI CHIKAMI 536-6683

IN THE HEART OF THE CITY.....\$153,500

You'll find a home that's tasteful and elegant. Classic 3BR, 2BA near the lake. Refined atmosphere created by gourmet kitchen, pleasing colors.

M. J. McCONVILLE 287-9583

ADAMS POINT DUPLEX.....\$140,000

Sunny & spacious duplex with charm, large rooms, private yard w/ BR, 1BA apt & studio below, lots of privacy, storage and more

ARNOLD MUELLER 530-6098

ONCE YOU SEE IT.....\$105,000

You'll want to own it! Wonderful location in Montclair for this lot with bay & wooded views. Gentle down, almost 10,000 sq ft call for address.

NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

CHALLENGES COMPARISON.....\$25,000

A greasyway price for lot in Montclair! Yes it's buildable. Downslope, almost 10,000 sq ft, wooded views.

NAHID NASSIRI 531-1670

'Rose Garden' tour



Exotic entryways like this in Oakland's 'Rose Garden' neighborhood invite you to Oakland Heritage Alliance's tour on September 14.

Bordering the magnificent Oakland Rose Garden near Jean Street, just off Grand Avenue is a neighborhood of distinctive historic houses built between the late 1880s and the 1930s. Oakland Heritage Alliance will showcase 10 of these homes at its Annual House Tour, Sunday, Sept. 14, from noon to 5 p.m.

The area boasts of a variety of architectural styles — Victorian, Queen Anne, Craftsman, Prairie School and the gamut of Period Revival styles, which were created by such notable architects as Julia Morgan, the Newsoms, and John Hudson Thomas.

The Rose Garden neighborhood was developed after the Consoli-

dated Piedmont Cable Car line established service up Oakland Avenue in 1890. The Linda Vista Terrace Tract helped build up the area. Touted as one of the most desirable areas for home sites in Oakland, the Terrace had good soil, and fine views of the Piedmont hills and the harbor.

See TOUR, page 25

Moss...

Continued from page 19

person could carry that idea in a little different direction and discover a multitude of decisions that could be based on a credit score.

Apartment rentals immediately come to mind. An applicant with a questionable score will not be allowed to rent. Or a borderline credit score will produce a corresponding borderline dwelling. Low credit score? You get your pick of the smallest, most dungeon-like apartment for the highest marginal rent.

There is already a Car Credit Score in use for automobile loans which was created specifically for auto lenders. But the real excitement will come from tailoring the credit score to individual credit cards. Monthly finance charges can easily be tied to a person's credit score and fluctuate accordingly.

This is not as futuristic as it might at first sound. And remember: We are living in the future. But there are a couple of things you should know about credit scores. First, you are not allowed to know what your own credit score is.

Mr. Fair and Mr. Isaac

You may be able to finagle it from a friend or acquaintance if you get them to run your credit report, but Fair, Isaac, the name of the company who invented credit scores in 1956, will not give it to you. And even when you order a copy of your own credit report from one of the three major credit reporting bureaus, your credit score will not appear on it.

Second, no one knows exactly what goes into the calculation of a credit score. That's because the actual algorithms are secret. Calculating a credit score is something Fair, Isaac refuses to divulge. They will not give out what they consider their edge over the competition, the techniques used to make the calculations.

And neither will the competition. But they do say that time has an influence on the score. Supposedly, a missed payment four years ago will not count as much as a missed payment four months ago. Third, and this is a corollary to the second issue, should different weights be assigned different groups or classes of people?

Statistical weighting based on

ethnicity is illegal. But no one outside the company knows what went into the weighting. Certain classes of people may have been selected and segmented by income or historical information and given preferential or detrimental weightings.

Nobody knows

No one outside Fair, Isaac knows, for example, if statistical weights are already assigned to, say, newspaper editors who are notoriously bad risks compared to pregnant mothers who are notoriously good risks.

What we do know is that weights go into the calculations. "We let the data determine the weights," said Mark Lachman, a mortgage broker in Marin who once worked for Fair, Isaac and was involved in developing credit scoring.

"It's not a regression analysis. The types of information include how you've paid your debts in the past, how recent you have had new credit, what's the worst derogatory rating you've had, and, of the available credit, what percent utilization. It's been shown that people who have a higher utilization have a higher likelihood of going bad than those that don't."

A rose by any other name

Fair, Isaac also builds what the IRS uses to pick people for audits. The technique is called "discriminate functions," according to Lachman. Credit scores go by several different names. They are called an Empirica by Trans Union, a Beacon at Equifax. Experian, formerly known as TRW, refers to them as a FICO which is an acronym derived from Fair, Isaac Credit Bureau Score.

Fair, Isaac of San Rafael was founded by Bill Fair and Earl Isaac, in case you wondered. A company spokesman said that all credit reporting bureaus use the FICO as the basis of their calculations. These credit reporting companies often have proprietary software which massages the data in different ways, produces slightly different results and explains why credit scores as well as credit reports differ.

Three different reports?

If you went to all three reporting bureaus you would get three scores, one high, one low and one in the middle. Leading us to another question or two: Which one do you use?

You are not allowed to know what your credit score is.

Which is more reliable?

The reason you cannot see your own credit score, according to a spokesperson at Fair, Isaac, is because "a score by itself has little meaning to the borrower." Therefore, you cannot have your credit score.

In addition, since a lender can establish score cutoffs at any point along the score range, that means an interpretation of the score in terms of loan approval is relative to each lender. Therefore, you cannot have your credit score.

Moving target

And, the people at Fair, Isaac argue, a credit score is a moving target which changes daily, if not hourly. Therefore, you cannot have your credit score.

It is no great cognitive leap in our era of instant data retrieval to envision the credit score changing fractionally from hour-to-hour, minute-to-minute.

One common belief is that too many inquiries lowers your credit score. "That's something very dear to mortgage brokers because our credit gets pulled weekly," said Wayne Repich, president of the California Association of Mortgage Brokers. "Bankers we're approved with want to be sure we're creditworthy. So every week a different bank is pulling a credit report on the individual broker which lowers their FICO score."

But this is not true, according to Lachman. "We've been told that the worst inquiries can hurt you 15 points," he said. You are your credit score.

Futurists believe the credit score will one day be the only criterion for extending credit. In fact, the actual price you pay for goods and services will probably vary with that score. That's scary.

H.W. Moss is a licensed real estate associate with TCO in San Francisco. He also writes fiction and has a Website. You can visit him at www.netnovels.com.

To subscribe, call 339-4040

PACIFIC UNION RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE

HOMES OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30

- | | |
|--|---|
| 41 FARRAGUT AVENUE, PIEDMONT - 7+BD/5+BA.....\$1,950,000
Beautifully restored, grand formal rms, 1/2 acre, bay views. Georgia Cornell | 5830 SNAKE ROAD, MONTCLAIR - 4BD/3BA.....\$379,000
New listing! Architect remodel, hardwood, slate, skylights. Sandi Klemmer |
| 207 ESTATES DRIVE, PIEDMONT - 5BD/3+BA.....\$1,195,000
Handsome English tudor, custom kit, rec rm, sauna, gardens. Sally Morrison | 4016 OAKMORE ROAD, OAKMORE - 3BD/1+BA.....\$369,000
Pristine Tudor, spacious rooms, kitchen room, bsmt, garage. Lee Jacobson |
| 21 SHARON AVENUE, PIEDMONT - 3BD/3BA.....\$1,180,000
Beaut Mediterranean on 1/4 acre, large level-out garden. Bonnie Hirsch | 6719 CHELTON DRIVE, MONTCLAIR - 4BD/3BA.....\$362,500
Exceptional value! Spacious contemporary in tranquil setting. Teri Carlisle |
| 304 DENTON PLACE, HILLCREST EST - 5BD/3+BA.....\$1,024,500
Pebbles home on over one acre with incredible views, au pair. Joan Daniel | 2001-03 VINE STREET, BERKELEY - DUPLEX.....\$359,000
New listing! Charming! Great area! 2/1 & deck up, 1/1 down. Joanna Gould |
| 1474 GRANDVIEW, CLAREMONT HILLS - 3+BD/3+BA.....\$895,000
New listing! Brand new! Pano views, 4,000 sq. ft., kitchen rm. Patricia Scott | 6433 WESTOVER DRIVE, MONTCLAIR - 3BD/2+BA.....\$349,000
Immaculate contemp, fam rm, msl ste, deck, canyon views. Chuck Corwin |
| 2025 MATHIEU, UPPER ROCKRIDGE - 4BD/3+BA.....\$759,000
Dramatic new country Tudor, finest quality craftsmanship! Vicki Woodhead | 8020 SHEPHERD CANYON, MONTCLAIR - 4BD/4BA.....\$339,000
Canyon view, family room, updated kit, decks, wine cellar. Kathy Flynn |
| 84 BLAIR AVENUE, PIEDMONT - 4BD/3+BA.....\$746,000
Central location, family rm, formal DR, yard, walk to schools. Francis Heath | 7030 SNAKE ROAD, MONTCLAIR - 4BD/2BA.....\$335,000
New listing! Dramatic bay view contemporary, fam rm, decks. Tom Anthony |
| 2215 BYWOOD DRIVE, OAKMORE - 6BD/4BA.....\$679,000
Stately English manor, custom features, spacious grounds. Helen Danhaki | 6906 SARONI DRIVE, MONTCLAIR - 3BD/2BA.....\$319,000
New listing! All level, large fam rm, enchanting fenced garden. Ann Nichols |
| 86 SHERIDAN, UPPER ROCKRIDGE - 4+BD/3+BA.....\$649,000
Lovely new craftsman, quality finished, fabulous courtyard. Dee Knowland | 101 MOUNTAIN VALLEY, OAKLAND HILLS - 3BD/2BA.....\$220,000
New listing! All level end unit overlooking C. Club & SF bay. Robyn Mohr |
| 3 SENIOR AVENUE, BERKELEY - 3BD/3+BA.....\$550,000
3 bdrm suites, view, new family room/office, library, garden. Joanna Gould | 3948 OAK HILL ROAD, OAKLAND HILLS - 4BD/2BA.....\$219,000
New listing! Spacious ranch style, hwd flrs, fam rm, large yard. Joan Dark |
| 5590 COUNTRY CLUB, CLAREMONT PINES - 3BD/2+BA.....\$549,000
Bright one level home, privacy, remodeled kitchen & baths. Wendy Gardner | 51 MISSION HILLS, SEQUOYAH HTS - 2BD/2BA.....\$212,000
Sparkling one level end unit, partial bay view, 2-car garage. Tom Anthony |
| 44 BOWLES PLACE, CROCKER HIGHLANDS - 4BD/3BA.....\$499,000
New listing! Architectural details, sunlit rms, move-in cond. Leslie Gordon | 3141 GUIDO ST, REDWOOD HEIGHTS - 1+BD/1BA.....\$169,000
New listing! Enchanting cottage nestled in trees, deep lot. Diane E. McCan |
| 3545 FOREST COURT, OAKLAND HILLS - 3+BD/3+BA.....\$449,000
New construction, great views, open floor plan, lg family room. Dick Cohen | 3065 FLORIDA, LAUREL DISTRICT - 2BD/1+BA.....\$142,000
New listing! Immaculate one level home, beautiful gardens. Diane E. McCan |
| 616 RIDGEWOOD DRIVE, MONTCLAIR - 4BD/2BA.....\$389,000
New listing! Sophisticated contemp, many upgrades, privacy. Kirk Phillips | |

BY APPOINTMENT

OAKLAND / PIEDMONT

- | | |
|---|---|
| PIEDMONT ENGLISH TUDOR.....\$1,195,000
Wonderful family home with 5BD/3BA, gourmet kit, fam rm, study & rec room with adjacent sauna & gardens. Sally Morrison | BRIGHT MONTCLAIR CONTEMPORARY.....\$349,000
Sweeping canyon views, 3BD/2+BA, master suite, formal dining, kitchen/family room combo, new decks, 2-car garage. Chuck Corwin |
| EXQUISITE NEW HOME.....\$999,000
Immaculate in luxury and tranquility, 1.4 acres in private setting, 3BD/3BA, professionally decorated. Helen Danhaki 547-5750 | DESIRABLE REDWOOD HEIGHTS.....\$315,000
Serene & spacious 5BD/3BA home. Level-in to dramatic LR with beautiful tree views, large level yards. Diane E. McCan |
| PRIVACY AND TRANQUILITY.....\$995,000
Wonderful home on a tree studded acre with unsurpassed views, 4BD/4+BA, rec rm with party kitchen. Helen Danhaki: 547-5750 | MONTCLAIR VALUE.....\$279,000
Great space & condition for the price! 3BD/2BA, large plus room, formal dining room, trpl, 2-car garage. Thomas Wurst |
| THREE BRIDGE VIEW.....\$839,000
Spectacular new contemporary! 4BD/3+BA, 2 trpls, gourmet kitchen, fam rm with built-in home theater. Vicki Woodhead | UPPER ROCKRIDGE.....\$269,500
Spacious home in oak tree setting, 2BD/1BA, kitchen room combo, level out to patio & studio, 2-car gar. Wendy Gardner |
| SF & GG BAY VIEWS - PIEDMONT.....\$679,000
Stunning ceilings, hwd floors, 4BD/4BA, 2 family rooms, formal dining, 4-car garage. A best buy! Helen Danhaki 547-5750 | PIEDMONT AVENUE BUNGALOW.....\$259,500
Attractive 2BD/1BA home in prime location. New paint inside & out, new roof, large fenced back yard, garage. Sally Morrison |
| LEVEL LIVING - PIEDMONT.....\$599,000
Elegant, freshly renovated custom ranch style in a private setting, 3BD/2.5BA, master suite, 2-car garage. Debi Fitzgerald | LEONA HEIGHTS.....\$219,950
Custom craftsman! Great curb appeal & special details inside. 4BD/1+BA, spacious kit, workshop, garden. Diane E. McCan |
| PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR.....\$549,000
Sophisticated easy living. Tastefully remodeled, great indoor/outdoor space, filtered bay views, 4BD/3BA, office. Teri Carlisle | CHARMING NORMANDY COTTAGE.....\$219,000
Immaculate & cozy home nestled in a pretty tree setting near Montclair, 2BD/1BA, updated kitchen, patio. Dee Knowland |
| BREATHTAKING SF/GG VIEWS!.....\$495,000
The most desirable lot in Ridgemoor! .8 acre, foundation & surrounding walls in place, h house plans available. Robyn Mohr | SWEEPING SF/GG VIEW.....\$215,000
Most desirable one-level, end unit townhouse. Enter through park-like common area. 2BD/2BA, family room. Robyn Mohr |
| SOPHISTICATED CONTEMPORARY.....\$399,950
Immaculate 9-year old home featuring 3BD/2+BA, gourmet kit, huge master suite, beautiful floors throughout. Dick Cohen | ROCKRIDGE CONDOMINIUM.....\$173,000
Best Country Club location! 2BD/2BA, move-in condition, all new carpeting, near shops & restaurants. Joan Daniel |
| ALL LEVEL LIVING!.....\$369,000
Former model home in Ridgemoor! 3BD/2+BA, spacious family room, 2 trpls, huge patio/garden areas, 3-car gar. Robyn Mohr | A BEST BUY CONDOMINIUM!.....\$122,000
Fabulous unit in very desirable complex. 1BD/1BA, roomy kit, dining area, balcony, washer/dryer, parking space. Joan Hause |

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TEMPLETON

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5264 SHAFTER AVENUE Open Saturday & Sunday 2-4

New on market - just listed! Sweet Rockridge Craftsman. Two bedrooms plus sun room. Lush private garden, large deck & hot tub! Leslie Easterday ext. 134.....\$249,000

BERKELEY

ELEGANT FARMHOUSE! A "landmark" property on 1/3 acre with views! 4BR/4.5BA, family room, 3-car garage and studio! Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$1,150,000

PRIVATE AERIE Maple, brushed aluminum & vast glass panels framing Bay views, and ancient trees. Sep studio room & bath. Paul Templeton ext. 131.....\$835,000

10 ARDEN RD., Open Sun 2-4. Panoramic Hill exciting view home built in '91. 3BR/2.5BA, soaring ceilings, gourmet kitchen/family room, 3-car garage, level yard! Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$795,000

26 EL CAMINO REAL, Open Sun 2-4. Majestic 1921 Colonial with superb moldings & a staircase worthy of Scarlett O'Hara. Sunroom, bay view, convenient to shops and tennis. 4BR/3BA. Paul Templeton.....\$719,000

417 SPRUCE, Open Sun 2-5. New! Ken Cardwell designed 3BR home with separate studio! Elegant & immaculate! Perfect for entertaining & easy one-level living! Bebe McRae ext. 145.....\$499,000

5314 SHAFTER, Open Sun 2-4:30. New listing! Charming craftsman. 2+BR/1.5BA, hardwood floors, tastefully redone kitchen & bath - ready to move in! Ron Eggherman ext. 127.....\$269,000

OAKLAND

CLAREMONT CANYON. Five rare and magical unimproved downslope lots. Spectacular top of the world bay and canyon park views! Sold as two sep. packages. Package One: Two contiguous lots, approx. 60 acres.....\$110,000 Package Two: Three contiguous lots, approx. .85 acres.....\$190,000

EL CERRITO

THREE BRIDGE VIEW. Simply gorgeous! Gracious & sophisticated with elegant materials. Flexible floor plan, 3BR/2.5BA, family room, office & a real "Chef's" kitchen. Ron Eggherman ext. 127.....\$595,000

- 1086 GRAND VIEW DR., Open Sun 2-4. Elegant Japanese contemporary design. 3BR/3BA & a view in a pretty canyon setting. Marlene Leverette ext. 12.....\$495,000
- 2875 SHASTA, Open Sun 2-4. New listing! Great indoor/outdoor living! French doors! Flexible floor plan, 3BR/2BA plus family room or large in-law apartment. Susie Schevill ext. 144.....\$319,000
- 1016 WILDCAT CANYON, Open Sun 2-4. PRICED TO SELL! Great new price! Special setting. Private drive. This property features panoramic views overlooking Tilden Park. 4BR/2BA inc. master suite. Double garage, huge veranda on oversized lot! Susie Schevill ext. 144.....\$279,000
- NORTH BERKELEY duplex near Walnut Square. Big private garden. L. Easterday ext. 134.....\$289,000
- TRADITIONAL 4BR house w/cute detached studio cottage. Great starter w/lots of deck space for outdoor enjoyment. Marlene Leverette ext. 121.....\$270,000
- BROWN SHINGLE CRAFTSMAN BEAUTY. 2BR/2BA. Charming & immaculate. Whirlpool tub. Walk to Chez Panisse! Nancy Noman ext. 124.....\$225,000

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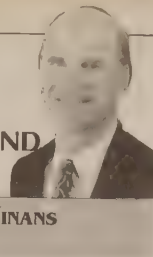
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FROM THE GROUND UP

PAUL WINANS



Everything is always changing. Homeowners in the Bay Area for the past few years have been confounded by the changes in the housing market.

Remember the late '80s when appreciation in home prices was running about 10 to 15 percent or more a year? Our remodeling clients could fund the remodeling work we did for them with the increase in equity they were experiencing!

In the '90s that changed as the economy took a dive. Housing values were, at best, stable and in many cases actually decreased. With the changes our economy was experiencing, there were more people leaving California than entering; a phenomenon that had not occurred in the recent past.

Well, here we are again experiencing something completely different. The economy is doing better, roaring along in some areas and, for some, the housing market is hot once again. In fact it seems there are more buyers than there are properties. A seller's market exists; it is routine to see asking prices overbid.

In these exciting times what should you, the buyer, be doing to make sure you know what you are buying? There are so many different things to which you need to pay attention. Let me try to help with a remodeler's perspective.

Avoiding grief: a primer

First of all it is very important to supplement this advice with that of other professionals, such as your real estate agent. These professionals manage many different transactions and are more aware of what to pay attention to than I.

My focus is to learn as much about the building as quickly as possible. You do not want make a discovery after escrow closes that will haunt your entire life in the building.

When you walk up to the property, set aside the excitement you might be experiencing and look at the building as objectively as possible. This will be hard to do and might require that you walk through the house once as emotionally as you like. Say things like, "The view is perfect!" or "The floors are beautiful!" and so on.

The second time you walk through the house, do it as the objective, detached detective. Your goal is to discover all that you need to know about the condition of the building to make and informed, intelligent buying decision, one you will not regret after you are living in the house.

So, what should an objective, detached detective be looking for?

• Cracks. As you walk up to the building look for cracking or offsets in the pavement and walks. If you see cracks, ask about them. How long have they been there? Have they gotten worse? What could be the cause?

• Ground movement. To a greater or lesser degree, this is not uncommon around here. If you are looking at the house where the pavement is

cracked, there are cracks in the foundation, there are cracks in the interior plaster and the floor feels out of whack, you might have to factor into your purchase dollars remedial foundation work. This can be quite a bit of money.

• Basements. The basement is a great place to send time if you are considering buying a house because it is the best place to see the guts. The condition of the foundation can be noted. While you are at it, look for white deposits on the concrete or on the concrete floor. These are mineral deposits left where water has evaporated and it means there is likely a problem with water during the rainy season. Ask about this.

While you're in the basement, take the time to inspect the utilities and the basic systems.

• Utilities. Are the water pipes a gray color with brown stains at the joints? If so, they are aged galvanized steel that is failing; complete replacement with copper water piping might be needed at some point in the next several years.

• Electrical system. Are there parallel strands of dark-colored wires with visible splices? If so the electrical system is probably "knob and tube," a method of wiring still in compliance with the code but not used much these days.

You might need to do a bit of work to make the system meet the code, particularly at those splices. In many instances the original installation has been modified improperly and dangerously.

Look for the distribution panel of the electrical system. If it is a fuse panel and you would like to do a

You do not want make a discovery after escrow closes that will haunt your entire life.

kitchen remodel, you are quite probably going to have to change the electrical service to the house and the distribution panel. Sometimes the system can be so inadequate that you can not even use a hair dryer and a toaster at the same time!

• Furnace. Take a look. Is the furnace that huge thing sitting in the center if the basement with many large round ducts coming out of it? Then it is probably a very old gravity-fed unit with the ducting wrapped in asbestos.

These systems are inefficient but work adequately and quietly unless you are going to add more heat outlets. At some point in your life in the building you will probably have a new forced-air furnace installed — with the asbestos ducts being removed and replaced.

In the next column I'll continue to point out things you can look for and give you some ideas on finding good people to help inspect the house. Good luck in the meantime.

Paul Winans, CR, is co-owner of Winans Construction, Inc., an Oakland-based general contracting firm founded in 1978. He can be reached at 653-7288.

Helping others help yourself

Most people who believe they are leaving large inheritances to their children and grandchildren would be surprised to learn that their estates could be taxed up to 55 percent. This pitfall could be avoided, however, by learning the benefits of charitable trusts, gift annuities, and donations of appreciated stock.

The American Red Cross Bay Area Chapter is offering free advice, brochures and tax calculations to help people take advantage of IRS-approved tax planning vehicles. These documents enable them to redirect funds from taxes to their family members, friends and favorite charities.

"People often miss out on tremendous tax savings because of misconceptions that these vehicles are too complex or expensive to set up or that their assets are not large enough to benefit from a little tax planning," said Jennifer Callahan, a CPA with the Red Cross.

"People who have seen a big gain in the value of their stocks or real estate can save a lot of money in capital gains and estate taxes."

Red Cross Director and attorney Leonard Graff cited an example of a couple, both retired teachers, who recently worked with the Red Cross

to transfer a rental property at \$575,000 into a charitable trust.

The building was yielding about 3 percent in annual income and the couple was managing hassles. The trust they now enjoy a 7 percent annual lifetime return, avoid gains taxes on any appreciation and no longer have to manage the building — they got a \$254,115 income-tax reduction.

The Red Cross Gift Plan Department provides assistance to people interested in tax planning for their summer homes, rental properties, appreciated assets and other low-income-earning investments.

The American Red Cross Bay Area chapter serves the disaster relief needs of local disaster victims in the county region of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin and San Mateo counties.

From first aid and CPR to providing emergency food and medical services to victims of house fires, floods, earthquakes, the Red Cross is active here in the community.

For more information call 427-8187.

Wilson's flood relief

California Governor Pete Wilson has signed a bill that will provide property tax relief to local governments and income tax relief to residents and businesses for losses stemming from last January's floods.

A spokesman for the governor's office says that the bill will require state Controller to reimburse local counties for the property tax lost as a result of the storms and that in California earlier this year

YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE TO OPEN HOMES

OAKLAND Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

5604 DENTON PL, Hillcrest Est., 5/3+, 1-acre, fab views, aupair \$1,024,500 Pacific Union, Joan Daniel 339-6460

6066 MAZUELA, 5 1/2 2-story trad'l, fab mstr, 2 family rms, great rm \$925,000 Mason-McDuffie 845-0200, Barbara Hopper 635-4839 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5

6054 MAZUELA, Montclair Valle Vista, new 4 1/2 Mod., exquisitel \$850,000 Mason-McDuffie 845-0200, Barbara Hopper 635-4839 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5

6205 MATHIEU, Upr Rockridge, 4/3+ nw country tudor, craftsmanship \$759,000 Pacific Union, Vicki Woodhead 339-6460

2 DIABLO DR, Montclair, lg 5bd/3ba w/bay & canyon vws, nds some \$680,000 updating. Approx. 1/2 acre lot. Mary Evans, Dutra RE 734-5270 SUN 2:30-4:30

2215 BYWOOD DR, Oakmore, 6/4 English manor, spacious grounds \$679,000 Pacific Union, Michelle Miller 339-6460

86 SHERIDAN, Rockridge, 4+/3+ nw craftsman, quality, fab courtyard \$649,000 Pacific Union, Dee Knowland 339-6460

6431 BROOKSIDE, Rockridge, nw 4/3, level-in, lux. mstr, walk BART \$629,000 Mason-McDuffie, David Ichikawa 428-0900

901 PARAMOUNT, Crocker, elegant 3bd/2ba superb large remodel \$619,000 Mason-McDuffie, Heli Perrett 428-0900

1055 AQUARIUS WAY, 4+bd/2 1/2ba, statelny nw construction w/views \$619,000 Mason-McDuffie, Susan Yamamoto 428-0900

29 HOLYWOOD MANOR, P. Pines, 3+2 1/2 fab view home, family rm \$599,000 The GRUBB Company, Connie Rogers 339-0400

6041 GIRVIN RD, GG views from all rooms 3+bd, kit/fam combo \$598,000 Wells & Bennett, Mary Neuberger 530-4148

5911 MONZAL AVE, Valuel sunny 5bd, 3/2ba, hwdws, frpls, level yd \$549,000 Wells & Bennett, Joy Bryden 531-7000 X218

5560 COUNTRY CLUB, Claremont Pines, 3bd/2+ba, remodel kit/baths \$549,000 Pacific Union, Wendy Gardner 339-6460

6241 WOOD DRIVE, Reduced! 4bd/2ba with lush gardens \$549,000 Mason-McDuffie 428-0900, Carolyn Jones 644-5426

2265 MELVIN RD, Oakmore, custom built 4/2 colonial on 1/2 acre \$519,000 The GRUBB Company, Judy Rankankan 339-0400

44 BOWLES, Crocker Highlands, 4bd/3ba, new listing! move in! \$499,000 Pacific Union, Leslie Gordon 339-6460

4857 PROCTOR, Upper Rockridge, Trad.elegance, FDR, 2+bd/2 1/2ba \$499,000 gourmet oak kitchen, Terry De Young, Broker 462-7792

6686 LIGGETT DR, Montclair, lovely trad'l, formal living & dining \$494,500 The GRUBB Company, Debbi DiMaggio 339-0400

868 TRESTLE GLEN RD, 3bd/2 1/2ba \$469,500 Gadsby & Associates, Margaret 748-5300

31 BAY FOREST CT, Pinewood, 2+bd/2 1/2ba, wonderful bay view! \$449,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Herb Manor 869-4227

35 BAY FOREST CT, 3+bd/3+ba, nw construction, grt vws, lg fam rm \$449,000 Pacific Union, Dick Cohen 339-6460

1048 SUNNYHILLS, Crocker, nw listing! sunny 3+2+, 20's details \$439,000 Coldwell Banker, Ruby Ng 339-1174

21 CAPTAINS COVE, Hiller Highlands, 4/4, hwdws, view of SF \$425,000 Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammerel 339-1174

19 HAWKS HILL, Hiller Highlands, 3bd/2ba with pano view! \$424,000 Mason-McDuffie 845-0211, Gayle Tantau 898-9409

8201 SKYLINE CIR, Bayview in Oakland Hills, 3 & 4bds w/2 1/2ba \$300,000 HIGH by Kaufman and Broad. Spectacular views of SF Bay, recreational trails, easy commute. 430-9633 OPEN DAILY 10-6, FRIDAY 1-6

1545 TRESTLE GLEN RD, Crocker, 3/2 Med w/charm & character \$399,000 The GRUBB Company, Ed Kuo 339-0400

4622 REDWOOD RD @Campus, Ridgemont area, 3/2 1/2, secure, vw! \$399,000 Cornish & Carey, D. C. Hodges 531-7667

1593 TRESTLE GLEN RD, 3bd/2ba, redone w/style, lg lot, gardens \$399,000 Mason-McDuffie 834-2010, Dolores Thom 763-1710

2193 TRAFALGAR PL, Montclair, 4bd/3ba, 1st openl grt family hm \$395,000 Cornish & Carey, Mel Copland 339-2109

7117 SNAKE RD, Montclair, 4/3, fab view! 2 kitchens, EZ commute \$389,000 Coldwell Banker, Dell Orr 339-1174

6916 RIDGEWOOD DR, Montclair, 4bd/2ba, many upgrades, privacy \$389,000 Pacific Union, Kirk Phillips 339-6460

6430 COLBY, Rockridge/Elmwood, 3/2 or 2/1 gdn apt +d'art d studio \$384,000 Thornwall Properties, Kathryn Hill 848-1950 X242 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

5830 SNAKE RD, Montclair 4bd/3ba, new listing! architect remodel \$379,000 Pacific Union, Sandi Kiemmer 339-6460

4174 EMERALD, Temescal, 6 1/4 - Home & 3 cottages \$369,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Felicia Owens 869-4217

4016 OAKMORE RD, 3bd/1+ba pristine tudor, kit/fam rm, bsmnt, gar \$369,000 Pacific Union, Lee Jacobson 339-6460

6719 CHELTON DR, Montclair, 4/3 in tranquil setting, grt value! \$362,500 Pacific Union, Teri Carlisle 339-6460

12540 BROOKPARK, Parkridge, 5bd/3ba, open fr plan, deck, lg lot \$359,000 Cornish & Carey, Vickie Chan Case 339-8900

6255 VIEWCREST, 3bd/2 1/2ba, family room, 3-car gar, vw city lights \$349,000 Better Homes Realty 339-4000

3938 OAKMORE RD, Oakmore, 4bd/2ba, formal trad'l, exc.location \$349,000 Better Homes Realty 339-4000

6433 WESTOVER DR, Montclair 3bd/2+ba, family rm, deck, cyn vw \$349,000 Pacific Union, Chuck Corwin 339-6460

2269 MASTLANDS, 4bd, 2ba, mint contemporary, fab wooded vw \$339,000 Better Homes Realty 339-4000

8020 SHEPHERD CANYON, Montclair 4bd/4ba, canyon vw, decks \$339,000 Pacific Union, Kathy Flynn 339-6460

5978 ASCOT, P. Pines, new listing! 1 1/2+acre, private, 3bd/2 1/2ba \$339,000 Coldwell Banker, Karen Lun 339-1174

3750 LAKESHORE AVE, Gracious 3+bd trad'l Medit, bonus room \$339,000 The GRUBB Company, Anlian Tunney 339-0400

6879 BRISTOL DR, Claremont Hills, sunfilled 3/2 + home office \$335,000 The GRUBB Company, James Garcia 339-0400

7030 SNAKE RD, Montclair, 4b/2b, dramatic bay vw contemp, decks \$335,000 Pacific Union, Tom Anthony 339-6460

1732 INDIAN WAY, 3bd/3ba, bright contemporary \$325,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Howard Converse 869-4212

6906 SARONI DR, Montclair 3bd/2ba, new listing! fenced garden \$319,000 Pacific Union, Ann Nicholas 339-6460

1832 MOUNTAIN BL, Montclair, adorable 2+2 starter nr village \$319,000 The GRUBB Company, Elizabeth Dickson 339-0400

2989 BUTTERS DR, Oakland Hills 2/2, den, decks, sauna, bay vw \$315,000 Cornish & Carey, Jan Neff 339-8900

260 ELYSIAN FIELDS DR, Fab 3bd/2ba brick ranch, price reduced! \$310,000 2 fireplaces, hwdws. Richardson RE, Georgia Richardson 569-3499

4383 TERRABELLA, Redwood Hts, 3bd/2+ba traditional home \$308,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Gene Boomer 869-4202

958 WARFIELD, New listing! 3/2 trad'l, 2 plus rms, handsome frpl \$307,000 Coldwell Banker, Ruby Ng/Karen Lun 339-1174

1701 ARROWHEAD, Montclair, 3bd/2ba, bargain! rumpus, solarium \$299,000 Better Homes Realty 339-4000

582 WALAVISTA AVE, Lakeshore, 4bd/2ba trad'l, much potential \$299,000 Cornish & Carey, Lyn Murray 339-8900

3401 JORDAN RD, Space galore! Redwood Hts 3/2 trad'l, fam rm \$296,000 Coldwell Banker, Vicki Faulk 339-1174

5246 MILES AVE, Rockridge 2 story, 3/1 1/2, separate garage, deck, yard, Investco 844-9033

527 MONTCLAIR AVE, Haddon Hills, 3+bd/2ba w/potential! \$289,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Erik Johnson 869-4246

6636 HEARTWOOD DR, Montclair, 2bd/2ba trad'l, hwdws, brkst rm \$289,000 Better Homes Realty 339-4000

1007 ROSE AVE, 3 1/2 old fashioned family hm, frpl, big kit, deck \$286,000 Upper Piedmont Ave neighborhood, 452-1844

15 ELSTON CT, Charm! 3/2 Glenview Med, +1bd rental, cul-de-sac \$285,000 Wells & Bennett, Judy Farrell 531-7000 X227

18 MANDANA CIRCLE, (Off Mandana) Crocker Highlands, 3bd, 1 1/2ba, deck, yard, garage, Investco 834-9033

14 ALIDA CT, Lincoln Hts 3bd/2ba, new listing! cul-de-sac, A-1 \$278,750 Cornish & Carey, Rachel Baller 530-3860

424 61st St, Rockridge, just listed! 4+1/2 spacious fixr nr College Ave \$279,000 Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X209 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

5814 SNAKE RD, Montclair, 2+2+ hideaway nr village, updated \$279,000 The GRUBB Company, Judy Cain 339-0400

5314 SHAFER, New listing! charming 2+bd/1 1/2ba, hwdws, move in! \$269,000 Templeton Company, Ron Egherman 652-2133 X127

5358 BRYANT AVE, Rockridge, 2bd bungalow, FDR, frnd yd, patio \$268,000 Coldwell Banker, Darcy Diamantine 339-1174

3303 BURDECK, Montclair, 2+bd/2ba, oak tree contemporary \$259,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Gene Boomer 869-4202

4138 COOLIDGE AVE, Secluded 2/2 retreat, remodel kit, refin hwdws \$255,000 Wells & Bennett, Carrie Craig 531-7000

2422 WILBUR, Diamond, 3bd, 1 1/2ba, family rm, eat-in kitchen \$253,900 Mason-McDuffie, Darrin Tinsley 834-2010

5264 SHAFER AV, Nw on market! Rockridge craftsman, 2bd, sunrm \$248,000 Templeton Company, Leslie Easterday 652-2133 X134 OPEN SAT & SUN 1-4

4014 WOODRUFF AVE, Glenview, 3bd/1ba, move in condition! \$245,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Jim Forquer 869-4263 OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4:30

5420 LAWTON, Rockridge cul-de-sac 2/1 cosmetic fixer, grt location \$230,000 Coldwell Banker, Don Coelho 339-1174

3707 VIRILE, Pano view of Mt. Tam/Oakland lights/SF bay, 3/2 Harbor Bay Realty, Martha Turner 814-4828 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

1421 HOLMAN RD, Trestle Glen, 2bd/1ba, remodeled kitchen \$222,500 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Jim Forquer 869-4263 OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4:30

4629 MOUNTAIN BLVD, 4bd/3 1/2ba, fixer, large corner lot, hwdws. \$222,000 Motivated Seller, New Price Reduction! Tom Gee Realtor 540-6547

101 MOUNTAIN VALLEY, Oakland Hills 3bd/2b end unit, nw listing \$220,000 Pacific Union, Robyn Mohr 339-6460

209 SAMARIA LN, Redwood Hts, new townhouse listing, 2bd/2 1/2ba \$219,000 Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Vikki Landes 869-4225

3822 WHITTLE AVE, Oakmore, charm/spacious/updtd 2/1 bngalov \$215,000 Better Homes Realty 339-4000

51 MISSION HILLS, Sequoyah Hts, 2/2, sparkling 1-level end unit \$212,000 Pacific Union, Tom Anthony 339-6460

4362 BENNETT PI, Redwood Hts, 2/1, charm, bonus room, tree vws \$209,500 Pacific Union, Diane E. McCan 339-6460

1808 PLEASANT VALLEY, Piedmont AVE, 2/1, reduced! grt shape \$204,900 Cornish & Carey, Ken Ferrell 514-9036

4905 MANILA AVE, Temescal, new listing! 2bd, + rm, hwdws, deck \$179,000 Wells & Bennett, Kate Phillips 436-4100

3921 MORCOM, Maxwell Pk, nw listing! 2+bd Med, charm, att'd gar \$174,000 Wells & Bennett, Kate Phillips 436-4100

3551 LAGUNA, Just listed! 3bd tudor, huge fab yd, hwdws, FDR \$169,500 Wells & Bennett, Don Dunning 531-7000/482-2256

382 43rd STREET, Temescal, 2bd/1ba \$169,000 Coldwell Banker, Pamela Denison 486-1495

3141 GUIDO ST, Redwood Hts, 1+bd/1ba enchanting cottage \$169,000 Pacific Union, Diane E. McCan 339-6460

8311 ASTER AVE, Oakland Hills, grt nghbrhd, 2+1, bonus rm, vw \$169,000 Coldwell Banker, Ruth Lockhart 339-1174

2730 MONTICELLO, Maxwell Park, 3bd/1ba, FDR, recent remodel \$168,000 National Real Estate Service, Charles Rivers 482-2380

327 38TH AVE, One level 3bd bungalow, nw roof/elect/plumb/kit/ba \$167,000 Harbor Bay Realty 523-1144, Jane Friedrich 521-6892 OPEN SATURDAY 2-4

2836 RAWSON, Light/charming 3bd, updt'd kit/bath, att'd 2-car gar \$164,000 Wells & Bennett, Kate Phillips 436-4100



To place a listing in the Open Home Guide, please call 339-4046.
DEADLINE: Tuesday, 5:00 p.m.



REAL ESTATE
LAW CORNER

ROBERT HAYES



When money won't do

last week, I was consulted by a disappointed buyer who had entered into a contract to purchase a piece of real estate he dearly wanted to own. Only to be confronted some time later by a seller who had changed his mind and was refusing to complete the sale.

As I was dusting off my recollection of the rules concerning specific performance, he added, by the way, the seller (he used a more colorful term) owns the property with his wife, but though she didn't sign the contract, does that make any difference? Oh, boy, does it! But first, let's look through the rules governing specific performance.

Most discussions on the subject of what a buyer or seller can do when faced with the other's breach of a purchase contract focus on the monetary damages which may be available. There is a good reason for this.

The alternative remedy, known legally as specific performance of a contract, is not easily obtained although courts have looked upon it more favorably in recent years than they had previously done.

Sometimes, actually acquiring the property or, conversely, compelling the buyer to complete the purchase, is more important to the

aggrieved party than collecting the amount of money the law would allow. In such cases, specific performance is the way to go if it can be established to the satisfaction of the court that such monetary damages would inadequately compensate the non-breaching party for his or her loss and also if certain threshold conditions can be met.

Specific performance will not be granted if any of the following is found to be the case:

- the purchase price is deemed to be inadequate;
- the contract is not clear on what has to be done to complete the transaction;
- ordering specific performance would cause undue hardship or would be unjust or unreasonable;
- there was fraud or mistake in the formation of the contract;
- the aggrieved party was himself or herself in default of any material provision of the contract; or

• In the case of a seller, he or she is unable to convey marketable title. Sometimes, the answers to these questions are obvious. More often, however, they require competent legal advice because the answer depends on how courts have decided such issues in the

past.

In addition, it is important to understand that, although inconsistent, the aggrieved party can request both specific performance and monetary damages, on the theory that if the request for performance of the contract is denied, monetary damages for breach of the contract should still be awardable by the judge, arbitrator, or jury.

So far, I have been discussing rules which apply generically to specific performance of contracts. With respect to real estate contracts specifically, there are some special considerations. For one, because of an individual parcel's alleged uniqueness the law presumes that monetary damages would provide inadequate relief. In addition, in the case of a single family residence which the buyer intends to occupy as his or her principal residence, this presumption is conclusive, thus relieving the aggrieved party of the necessity of proving it.

Also, a party seeking specific performance must have performed or offered to perform all of his or her obligations under the contract, and stand ready to do so until resolution of the litigation or arbitration. If that person is depending on a third party to complete some aspect of his or her performance, such a lender who will provide financing, then that lender must be legally bound to do so in order for the aggrieved party to sustain the specific performance action. An exception is made for situations in which a seller breaches the contract, or announces his or her intention to do so, before the buyer has been able to obtain a legally binding commitment from the lender. In that case, a pre-qualification letter will probably suffice.

Finally, although it is some-

times thought that the inclusion of a signed liquidated damages provision in the contract precludes any other remedies in the event of a buyer's breach of contract, that belief is false. The presence of a liquidated damages provision is no impediment to suing for specific performance.

Specific performance is an instance of what the law regards as an equitable remedy. It is not a species of damages which the law regards as a legal, not equitable, remedy. A valid liquidated damages provision controls only the amount of possible monetary relief arising from a buyer's breach of contract, not the possibility of ordering him or her to complete the purchase itself.

Now, what about my anxious client, caught in the classic case of a contract signed by fewer than all of the sellers? Where do these rules leave him?

First, it must always be kept in mind that, because of what is known as the Statute of Frauds, a contract to purchase or sell real

property is unenforceable unless signed by the party against which enforcement is sought. I could tell that my client was beginning to get that old sinking feeling.

In general, where there are multiple sellers, a buyer is entitled to specific performance against those of the sellers who signed the contract but not against those who didn't. If people co-own a piece of property as tenants in common, and fewer than all of them sign the contract, a buyer who satisfies all of the other criteria would be entitled to compel the signing owners to sell him or her whatever interests in the property they own, but not the non-selling owner(s). What would result is a new tenants in common relationship between the suing buyers and the non-signing previous owner(s).

The situation is otherwise, however, with the typical husband and wife home sellers. There, if the property is held in community property (as is usually the case), and only one spouse signs the contract, no specific performance will

be ordered since the California Civil Code requires that both spouses must execute any instrument by which such property is sold.

The existence of a power of attorney, by the way, executed by one spouse in favor of the other will suffice to bind both to the contract. Absent such a power of attorney, a non-signing spouse may file an action within a year of transfer of title to void the transaction.

Not exactly the news my client wanted to hear.

Robert Hayes is a real estate attorney with the Law Offices of Hayes & Ware in Oakland. He is a former real estate broker and longtime instructor in Real Estate Practice with UC Extension. He can be reached at 763-7195 or Hayes_Ware_Law@msn.com and invites you to visit his web site at www.eastbaylaw.com/hayes, where all of his articles are soon to be posted.

Tour...

Continued from page 23

"Linda Vista Terrace and its environs will certainly maintain its lead as the choice residence section of Oakland," predicted an advertisement by the developers Heron & Holcomb.

This self-guided tour of interiors and gardens includes "Green Gates" and The Locke House.

"Green Gates," originally a 1903-04 brown shingle built by James Cobblestick, a member of a family prominent in the field of interior decoration, was remodeled in 1923 into an imposing Italian Villa situated atop a spacious, terraced front yard. It was Lloyd Robbins, a retired building superintendent for the Bank of America in San Francisco who was responsible for the house's dramatic transformation after taking a Grand Tour of Italy.

His son, Lloyd LaPage Robbins, became the first director of the deYoung Museum. The current owner is an artist, art historian, and professor emeritus at the San Francisco Art Institute. Much of the house decoration dates back to the 1920s restoration, including wallpaper, chandeliers, tiling, and terra-cotta figures, such as the Virgin and Child in the prayer chapel.

Outstanding also are the miniature fish pond with a dragon-head spout and lilac tiles, statues of flute-playing satyrs on the downhill walkway, and a beautifully carved front door with a gigantic fly door-knocker.

The Locke House is the secessionist creation of premier East Bay architect John Hudson Thomas for local businessman William Loving Lock. This handsome and unusual family home is now professional offices and has been restored to its original splendor by the current owner.

The house is a City of Oakland landmark and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Thomas was often associated with the Vienna Secessionist movement, which used combinations of arches and expansive wall surfaces, and asymmetrical window arrangements, all in protest to the excesses of Gothic and Beaux Arts styles. Built in 1911, the Locke house conveys a convincing quality of solid mass with interlocking wings, towers and parapets, massive arches, buttresses, and roughcast stucco that gives the appearance of stone.

The tour also includes Prairie style, Tudor Revival, Colonial Revival, and Craftsman houses. An ongoing garden reception adds to the pleasure of the day. Tickets are \$25 general, \$20 OHA members, and may be purchased in advance through OHA, Box 12425, Oakland CA 94604 or by calling the OHA office at 763-9218. Tickets will be available the day of the tour at 686 Mariposa Ave.

YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE OPEN HOMES



3035 WISCONSIN, Cute 1+bd cottage, lg family rm, on lg level lot
Bennett, Holda Novelo 531-4633 \$149,500

3038 SUNNYMERE, 2bd/1ba, Great beginnings, Start here!
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Erik Johnson 869-4246 \$146,000

3039 11th AVENUE, (Cross St. E. 28th St.) Single family or duplex.
Parrish & Carey, Investco 834-9033 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$145,000

3039 OPAL ST., Temescal, 3/2, funky exterior hides charm/privacy
Comish & Carey, Anida Weyl 339-8900 \$142,000

3045 FLORIDA, Laurel District, 2 1/2, nw listing! beautiful gardens
Pacific Union, Diane E. McCan 339-6460 \$142,000

3161 MONTICELLO AVE, Maxwell Park, 2+bd/2ba, sunny, view, yd
Better Homes Realty 339-4000 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5 \$140,000

3205 MINNA, Fruitvale, charming 2bd/1ba in 20's vintage ngrhhd
Comish & Carey, Charlene Claybaugh 444-7653 \$139,900

3500 PARK BL., 3bd/1ba, 1600 sf, freshly decorated, central heat,
basement, fireplace, double garage. Owner 524-3441 \$139,500

3586 EASTMAN AVE, Must Sell home! 2bd, frpl, remodeled kitchen
Mason-McDuffie 834-2010, Julia Rogers 433-7063 \$129,000

3586 MONTICELLO, Like a model - yard, deck, garage, yes!!
Mason-McDuffie 834-2010, Julia Rogers 433-7063 \$125,000

3586 MOSS #101, 2bd/2ba condo, lg LR, 2 balconies, sec.parking
Harbor Bay Realty, Nina Quan 814-4836 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$116,500

3594 OCTAVIA, 2bd/1ba bungalow, remod kitchen, hdwd floors
Comish & Carey 832-4339 \$112,000

3616 COCHRANE AVE, Normandy Style, 4/3, 2 fam rms, lg lot
United California Brokers, Shirley Sutton 299-4578 SUNDAY 2-4 \$

3630 VERNON, 1bd/1ba garden condo, excellent condition
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Gene Boomer 869-4202 \$74,000

ALAMEDA Open Sunday

247 MADISON, Just listed! very charming 2bd/1ba
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, Marielinda Grynbal 869-4226 SUNDAY 2-4:30 \$225,000

700 COLA BALLENA "E", 2+bd, den, 2ba, exquisite!
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, D. A. Hammond 869-4219 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 \$219,000

ALBANY Open Sunday

1341 THOUSAND OAKS, 2bd/1 1/2ba
Caldwell Banker, Diane Verducci 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$280,000

345 PIERCE STREET #2211, Albany, 2bd/2ba
Caldwell Banker, Karen Brand 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$159,500

345 PIERCE ST #1101, 2 bd bedrooms, 2 baths
Caldwell Banker, Karen Brand 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$149,900

BERKELEY Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

85 HILLCREST RD, Claremont splendor! 7/5, 4 story, ballrm, GG vw
Caldwell Banker, Lynne Bantle 339-1174 \$925,000

3210 GRIZZLY PEAK, New listing! lg 5+4, renovated, bridge vws
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X185 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$835,000

33 ARDEN RD, Panoramic Hill, 3 1/2 vw home, gourmet kit, level yd
Templeton Company, Bebe McRae 652-2133 X145 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$795,000

25 EL CAMINO REAL, Majestic 1921 colonial, bay vw, 4bd/3ba
Templeton Company 652-2133, Paul Templeton \$719,000

17 EUCALYPTUS RD, 2-story brown shingle w/SF vws, 4/3, charm
The GRUBB Company, Linda McClain 339-0400 \$659,500

2915 AVALON AVE, Spanish Monterey Med, 4/3 1/2, sep.studio/kit/ba
The GRUBB Company, Karen Starr 339-0400 \$599,000

1168 KEITH AVE, Elegant 3bd/2 1/2ba craftsman, mint charm, bay vw
Mason-McDuffie, Nora Brower 845-0200 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5 \$589,000

3 SENIOR AVE, 3bdrm suites, view, nw fam rm/office, library, garden
Pacific Union, Joanna Gould 339-6460 \$550,000

417 SPRUCE, New! 3bd w/separate studio, elegant & immaculate!
Templeton Company, Bebe McRae 652-2133 X145 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5 \$499,000

1086 GRAND VIEW DR, Elegant Japanese contemp, 3/3 w/view
Templeton Company, Marlene Leverette 652-2133 X121 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$495,000

733 CONTRA COSTA, Jus listed! renovated 4/3, grt views!
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X203 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5 \$459,000

315 VERMONT AVE, 3+bd/2ba brown shingle, great yard
Mason-McDuffie 339-9290, David Otero 869-4239 \$429,950

902 SAN BENITO, 3+bd/1 1/2ba
Caldwell Banker, Ritz Zwerdling 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$429,000

767 SAN DIEGO RD, 4bd/2 1/2ba
Caldwell Banker, Barbara Marienthal 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$419,000

1933 BARRYMAN, Berkeley 4bd/1 1/2ba + cottage
Caldwell Banker, Dave Moss 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$369,000

2001-03 VINE ST, Duplex, 2/1 w/deck up, 1/1 down, grt area, charm
Pacific Union, Joanna Gould 339-6460 \$359,000

69 FAIRLAWN, Enticing & gracious, 3/2 w/SF/GG/Mt Tam vws, deck
Berkeley Hills RE 524-9886, Terese Ashman 524-1700 X11 SUNDAY 2-4 \$339,000

2875 SHASTA, NW listing! grt ln/out living! 3/2, very flexible flr plan
Templeton Company, Susie Schevill 652-2133 X144 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$319,000

2605 ASHBY AVE, New price! huge 4bd brown shingle
Mason-McDuffie 845-0211, Fatima Ali 654-2267 \$299,000

189 FAIRLAWN, 3bd/1+ba, serene hillside setting, lg private deck
Thornwall Properties, Kathryn Stein 848-1950 X230 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$299,000

1016 WILDCAT CANYON, Reduced! 4/2 w/pano vws, huge veranda
Templeton Company, Susie Schevill 652-2133 X144 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$279,000

1604 JOSEPHINE, Berkeley triplex
Caldwell Banker, Sally Hendrickson 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$269,000

1451 HENRY ST, Delightful 2bd, Gourmet Ghetto
Mason-McDuffie 845-0211, Miriam Wilson 848-9411 \$265,000

1136 FRANCISCO, Charming 1910 bungalow, kitchen opens to deck
Mason-McDuffie, Carol Jakabson 527-3494, 849-3711 \$225,000

1201 PERALTA, Berkeley 2bd/1ba
Caldwell Banker, Gilda Waldman 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$225,000

773 NEILSON, Berkeley, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath
Caldwell Banker, Chris Cohn 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$210,000

1712 CALIFORNIA, Wow! 2bd gem nr No. Berk ART, eager seller!
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X122 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$189,000

1412 STANNAGE, No. Berk BEST BUY! 2/1, skylites, yd w/fruit trees
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X116 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$186,000

2545 MILVIA, 3bd/1 1/2ba
Caldwell Banker, The Longs 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$164,000

CASTRO VALLEY Open Sunday

22501-55 CENTER ST, 2/2 condos, tranquil, 3% dn, no closing costs
Better Homes Realty 339-4000 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5 \$118,000 to \$136,500

EL CERRITO Open Sunday

1050 CONTRA COSTA DR, El Cerrito, 4bd/3ba
Caldwell Banker, Henry Chang 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$595,000

8590 TERRACE, 3bd w/den, 2 1/2ba, huge fin. bsmt, 2-car att'd gar
Security Pacific, Geri Stern 234-7808 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$379,000

853 NORVELL, Just listed! 4bd/2ba, updt kit & bath, 2-car garage
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X112 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$244,950

2302 GLORIA, 2bd/1ba, newly remod, hdwds, vw, terraced garden
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X119 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$205,000

EMERYVILLE Open Sunday

4300 HORTON ST #13, 1+bd/1+ba, 1400 sf loft in warehouse
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X105 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$215,000

KENSINGTON Open Sunday

160 ARLINGTON, Kensington 4+bd/3+ba
Caldwell Banker, Chris Cohn 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$650,000

250 AMHERST, 4+bd/3ba, kit w/deck, bay vws, yd, storage
Templeton Company, Anne Van Dyke 652-2133 X137 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5 \$449,000

MORAGA Open Sunday

27 WIMPOLE, 3+bd/2 1/2ba on quiet cul-de-sac, walk shops/transp
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X203 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$349,000

PIEDMONT Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

44 FARRAGUT AV, 7+bd, 5+bd, beautifully restored, grand frml rms
Pacific Union, Georgia Cornell 339-6460 \$1,950,000

207 ESTATES DR, 5bd/3+ba handsome English tudor, custom kit
Pacific Union, Sally Morrison 339-6460 \$1,195,000

20 SHARON AV, 5bd/3ba beautiful Med, 1/4 ac, lg level-out garden
Pacific Union, Bonnie Hirsch 339-6460 \$1,180,000

160 WOODLAND WY, Gracious tudor, pool, 4 1/4, mstr w/fpl, hdwd
The GRUBB Company, Kurt Buchholz 339-0400 \$1,100,000

101 SCENIC AVE, Central location w/smashing bay vws! 4/3+, library
The GRUBB Company, Elizabeth Dickson 339-0400 \$899,000

209 HILLSIDE AVE, Sunny 3+bd/3ba trad'l, updt kit, gardens
The GRUBB Company, Sandra Vogl 339-0400 \$849,000

37 SHARON AVE, Lovely 4/3 colonial, SF/bay vw, charming garden
The GRUBB Company, Jean Simons 339-0400 \$799,000

121 MONTICELLO AVE, Bright 3+bd/2 1/2b charming trad'l, study, bsmt,
gourmet EIK, fam room, Best area! Caldwell, Jerilyn Babin 547-1615 \$749,000

604 BLAIR AVE, 4bd/3+ba, family rm, FDR, walk to schools
Pacific Union, Francis Heath 339-6460 \$746,000

136 CAPERTON AVE, A classic home w/elegant LR, 3/3, garden
The GRUBB Company, Josephine O'Shaughnessy 339-0400 \$569,000

816 BLAIR AVE, Level in & fully remodeled, 3/3, sun rm, bay vws
The GRUBB Company, Mindy Scott 339-0400 \$549,000

116 LATHAM ST, Elegant trad'l, 3bd/2ba, level out to garden
The GRUBB Company, Melitta Beeson 339-0400 \$495,000

120 MAGNOLIA AVE, Updt'd 3bd bungalow, stone frpl, bonus room,
Move-in condition. Superb opportunity! Robert Nelson 869-5133 \$398,000

80 PORTSMOUTH RD, 4+2, lg EIK, level out to deck and garden
The GRUBB Company, Angela Wei Grubb 339-0400 \$369,000

140 SCENIC AVE, Views & location! 3/3, spacious deck w/hot tub
The GRUBB Company, Angela Wei Grubb 339-0400 \$360,000

161 RONADA, Sun-drenched contemp w/updt kit, 2/2, new paint
The GRUBB Company, Mavis Delacoro 339-0400 \$298,000

423 LINDA AVE, Darling 2/1 + studio/rec area w/bath on lower level
The GRUBB Company, Bettina Bledier 339-0400 \$285,000

RICHMOND Open Sunday

685 AMADOR, R. View, 3bd/2ba bungalow, big woody yard, FDR
Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X192 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$170,000

1207 MELVILLE SQ, #113, Pt Richmond, 1bd condo, a perfect 10!
Regatta to Esplanade/dial 001 at Gate, Security Pacific 222-8870 X236 \$69,900

Magany Abbas 233-7329 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

SAN LEANDRO Open Sunday

16075 CAROLYN, 2bd/1ba, bay views, spacious rms, hdwds, grt yd
Pacific Union, Michelle Miller 339-6460 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 \$162,000

2521 GALLEON, 2bd/2ba condo, grt location! appliances included
Harbor Bay Realty, Tere Lee 521-3352 OPEN SATURDAY 2-4 \$149,500

To reach the real estate editor
call 339-4047.

To place a listing in the Open
Home Guide, please call 339-4046.
DEADLINE: Tuesday, 5:00 p.m.

This is the weekend for the **East Bay Home and Garden Show**. The show will run from 1 to 8 p.m., Fri., Sept. 5 and 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Sat.

The Golden Gate Chapter of the American Society of Home Inspectors (ASHI) hosts its monthly meeting 7 p.m., Thurs., Sept. 11 at



The nonprofit Building Education Center (BEC), 812 Page St., Berkeley is the place to start your dream home or to start turning your home into a dream. On Sat., Sept. 13 BEC presents two free workshops **What You Need to Know Before You Rebuild or Remodel.** A preview of the **Homeowner's Essential Course** is on tap from 10 a.m. to noon and author/instructor Skip Wenz presents **Choosing to Add On: the Pros and Cons of Building an Addition** from noon to 2 p.m. Call BEC at 525-7610 for

North American Title Company presents a **Technology Fair for the Real Estate Professional**, 4 to 7 p.m., Wed. Sept. 17 at 6116 La Salle Ave. in Montclair Village. Join North American Title Company for an afternoon good food and friends and learn if your computer needs upgrading, how to access the Internet, how to start your own Web page, the best prices on computers and more. For reserva-

The Alameda County Waste Management Authority presents a free **Worm Compost Workshop**, 2 to 4 p.m. Sun. Sept. 21 at the Oakland Compost Demonstration Garden, 666 Bellevue Ave. in Lake-

The Orchid Society of California meets at 7:30 p.m. on Monday of each month at the Merritt Garden Center, 6660 Ave. Ave., Oakland. Lectures and orchids and their care. Purchase orchid plants at the members sale before the meeting. Orators share their knowledge and plants for a raffle. A camaraderie and learn about the beautiful world of orchids. Call 1210 for more information. For inclusion in Events, Dennis Evanovsky, Real Estate Editor, Hills Newspapers, Redwood Rd., Oakland. Phone: 339-4047, Fax: 339-4048. Information must be received one week prior to publication.

Classified: 339-8777

 <p>HARBOR BAY REALTY</p> <p>SALES • RENTALS • PROPERTY MANAGEMENT</p>	
<h1 style="margin: 0;">523-1144</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">885 Island Drive, Alameda (above Long's Drugs)</p>	
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<h2 style="margin: 0;">Oakland</h2>	
<p>\$47,500 1975 81st AVE. Lot zoned for up to 4 units! Great for contractor! Richard Powell 814-4837</p> <p>\$38,000 1534 SEVENTH AVE. Nice single-level 2 BD, 1 1/2 BA Victorian near Chinatown! New foundation, upgraded electrical & plumbing. Added bonus room currently used as 3rd BD. Nina Quan 814-4836</p> <p>\$116,500 222 MOSS #101, OPEN SUN. 2-4. New interior paint throughout this 2 BD, 2 BA condo! Large living room, 2 balconies, secured parking, common courtyard, tree view & elevator! Russ Grant 814-4713</p> <p>\$149,500 6470 MACARTHUR. Two townhouse-style units in good condition! Both units are 2 BD, 1 BA. Close to Mills College! John Smith 814-4706</p> <p>\$167,000 2327 38TH AVE., OPEN SAT. 2-4. Single-level, 3 BD bungalow with new roof, heating, electrical & interior plumbing! New kitchen, bath, & windows! Deck with view & basement! Jane Friedrich 521-6892</p> <p>\$210,000 7953 STERLING. Single-level 3 BD well-cared-for bungalow, with formal dining room and fireplace, on a large lot! Lovely street & an attached garage! Tere Lee 521-3352</p> <p>229,000 3707 VIRDEN, OPEN SUN. 2-4. Panoramic view of Mt. Tamalpais, Oakland lights & S.F. Bay! A wonderful tri-level Spanish Mediterranean home with 3 BD, 2 BA, formal dining, fireplace, hardwood floors, workshop & decks! Martha Turner 814-4828</p> <p>\$235,000 376 42nd St. Large spacious 2-unit building to be sold "as is." Both units 2 BD, 1 BA. Termite & roof inspection available. Probate sale. Barbara Bolton 521-2101</p> <p>\$259,000 3799 HARRISON. Single-family Victorian in rill—newly remodeled! 1 1/2 BA, former PENDING haps. 4 BD, 1 1/2 BA, lots of space! Zoned for 21 units! Peter Flutcher 523-5750</p> <p>\$429,000 3480 REVERE. Panoramic view of Bay Area! Pristine custom single-level 3 BD, 2 BA home. Beamed ceilings, large rooms, full decks, level access, dan or office. Immaculate! Margaret Lomba 521-7193</p>	<p>\$150,000 2500 OUTRIGGER. Panoramic view of golf course & water! This 2 BD, 1 BA condo has newer carpeting, & fresh paint! Two 1-car finished garages, community pool, spa & tennis! Tere Lee 521-3352</p> <p>\$170,000 14018 OUTRIGGER. Many upgrades in this spottless 2 BD, 2 1/2 BA condo! Vaulted ceilings, wet bar, storm door, PENDING updates, mirrored doors, closet organizers, plus community pool & spa! Tere Lee 521-3352</p> <p>\$170,000 14317 SEAGATE. Many upgrades are included in this 2 BD, 2 1/2 BA home! Great central location, Spanish tiled patio, c.d., jacuzzi, community pool, spa & tennis. Tere Lee 521-3352</p> <p>\$173,950 14388 OUTRIGGER. Sharp, cozy 3 BD, 2 1/2 BA condo with view of courtyard! Mirrored wall in living room, 2 1-car garages, community pool, spa & tennis courts. Tere Lee 521-3352</p> <p>\$429,000 1548 DAILY. Full bay view from all rooms! Beautiful single-level 3 BD, 2 1/2 BA home with formal dining room, family room, built-in grill in kitchen, master BD in private wing, 3-car garage, air conditioning, & security system. Diana Lufels 521-5008</p> <p>\$329,500 525 BANCROFT. Investment opportunity! 16-unit apartment building. Call for details. Kathi Hirsch 814-4706</p>
<h2 style="margin: 0;">San Lorenzo</h2>	
<p>\$149,000 15962 VIA DEL SOL. Very clean & light single-level 3 BD bungalow! Hardwood floors, fireplace in living room, workshop in garage & large yard. Martha Turner 814-4828</p>	
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Hayward</h2>	
<p>\$113,500 280 FLINT. An excellent 2 BD, 1 BA condo with fireplace, modern kitchen, in-laws laundry & small but nice yard! Peter Fletcher 523-5750</p>	
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Castro Valley</h2>	
<p>\$145,000 19219 VAUGHN. "As-is" contractor special! Single-level bungalow with 2 BD, 1 BA, & a SOLD 1-car detached backyard with fruit trees! Bev & George Williams 522-7173</p>	
<h2 style="margin: 0;">San Ramon</h2>	
<p>\$205,000 2816 BOWLIN. Bring your tools to this affordable PENDING 1A home in a great location! Needs TLC. Kathi Hirsch 814-4706</p>	
<h2 style="margin: 0;">El Cerrito</h2>	
<p>\$130,000 LOT 68 DEVONSHIRE. Prime land! Breathtaking view of Golden Gate & Bay! Prestigious Arlington Estates. Walk to Mira Vista Golf Course. Steve Cressey 814-4818</p>	
<h2 style="margin: 0;">Out of Area</h2>	
<p>\$175,000 2645 EASTLAKE. KELSEYVILLE. Buckingham Park, middle Clear Lake. Location plus! A ranch-style 3 BD, 2 BA home with family room, 2 fireplaces, & 2-car garage. Approx 1 acre of natural setting with filtered view of lake! Margaret 814-4706</p>	

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SPACIOUS CASTRO VALLEY DUPLEX. 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 baths in each unit. Central heat, w/w carpeting. Oversized garages, includes laundry, & large yard. Raye Thieman, 748-1771.

OAKLAND

CONTRACTOR'S DELIGHT! Dutch Colonial on large lot, needs TLC. Above Foot-hill Blvd. & priced for immediate sale. 2 large bedrooms & a huge living room. Call for details Sharon Greene, 523-9421 or Mary Ann Herber, 568-2040.

4 BEDROOM, 2 BATH DIMOND FAMILY HOME. Must see to appreciate! On the market for only \$215,000. Call Cherie Fagney, 748-1265.

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DUPLEX BY MILLS COLLEGE. 2 bed-rooms, 1 bath each, 2-car garage, low maintenance yard. By appointment only. Cherie Fagney, 748-1265.

BEAUTIFULLY RESTORED HISTORICAL VICTORIAN. Gourmet kitchen, designer decorated. Large lot with private park-like yard & carriage house rental. Alice Garvin, 748-1763.

PRICE REDUCED TO \$190,000! Leona Heights ranch charmer in great location! 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, spacious, airy & immaculate, level lot, 2-car garage. Sharon Greene, 523-9421 or Mary Ann Herber, 568-2040.

LARGE HOME. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath up & 2 bedrooms, 1 bath down. Studio in back. Could be extra income. Beautiful avocado & grapefruit trees in this secluded backyard. Total upgrades. A Must See at \$195,000. Debbie Budd, 748-1806.

TOP FLOOR CONDO. 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths, corner unit, security. Sharon Greene, 523-9421 or Mary Ann Herber, 568-2040.

MAXWELL PARK AREA. 2 bedroom home with 1 bath & 2 bedroom in-law unit. Les Dronick, 748-1759.

FRUITVALE AREA, OAKLAND. Mirror image buildings with 8 units each. Separate owners. Cherie Fagney, 748-1265.

OAKLAND FOURPLEX. Close to Skyline, excellent neighborhood, all units are 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, best price in the area. \$299,000. Kitty Wan, 747-1621.

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REALTY

by TOM HOLSTLAW

I guess we should have checked out the neighborhood a little closer.

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- *1311 WEBSTER #E109. 1 BD Condo overlooking park **\$89,500 PENDING**
- *985 POST. One-level 3 BD, 1 BA, move-in condition. **\$219,000 SOLD**
- *2943 GIBBONS. Fernside Dist. 3 BD, 2 BA, family rm **\$389,000 SOLD**
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5. $C_2 \leq C_1$

Park Bellevue Tower

A black and white photograph of a modern interior space, likely a living and dining area. The room features large windows overlooking a city skyline and a body of water. In the foreground, there is a white dining table set with plates and glasses, and a white chair. To the left, a white sofa is visible. The room is decorated with potted plants and a large abstract artwork on the wall.

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Auto/Arts/Art*	813	Emeryville	
Auto/Arts/Art*	814	Lamondia & East	
Auto/Arts/Art*	815	Oakland/Piedmont	
Auto/Arts/Art*	816	San Leandro & So.	
Auto/Arts/Art*	817	Commercial Rentals Wanted*	
Auto/Arts/Art*	818	Real Estate-General	
Auto/Arts/Art*	819	Real Estate Loans	
Auto/Arts/Art*	820	Lofts & Live-Work Space	
Auto/Arts/Art*	821	Real Estate Loans	
Auto/Arts/Art*	822	Real Estate Services	
Auto/Arts/Art*	823	Real Estate Wanted*	
Auto/Arts/Art*	824	Alameda	
Auto/Arts/Art*	825	Albany/Kensington	
Auto/Arts/Art*	826	Berkeley	
Auto/Arts/Art*	827	El Cerrito & North	
Auto/Arts/Art*	828	Emeryville	
Auto/Arts/Art*	829	Lamondia & East	
Auto/Arts/Art*	830	Oakland/Piedmont	
Auto/Arts/Art*	831	San Leandro & So.	
Auto/Arts/Art*	832	Commercial Rentals Wanted*	
Auto/Arts/Art*	833	Real Estate-General	
Auto/Arts/Art*	834	Real Estate Loans	
Auto/Arts/Art*	835	Lofts & Live-Work Space	
Auto/Arts/Art*	836	Real Estate Loans	
Auto/Arts/Art*	837	Real Estate Services	
Auto/Arts/Art*	838	Real Estate Wanted*	
Auto/Arts/Art*	839	Alameda	
Auto/Arts/Art*	840	Albany/Kensington	
Auto/Arts/Art*	841	Berkeley	
Auto/Arts/Art*	842	El Cerrito & North	
Auto/Arts/Art*	843	Emeryville	
Auto/Arts/Art*	844	Lamondia & East	
Auto/Arts/Art*	845	Oakland/Piedmont	
Auto/Arts/Art*	846	San Leandro & So.	
Auto/Arts/Art*	847	Commercial Rentals Wanted*	
Auto/Arts/Art*	848	Real Estate-General	
Auto/Arts/Art*	849	Real Estate Loans	
Auto/Arts/Art*	850	Lofts & Live-Work Space	

401 Help Wanted

OPTICIAN for busy Oakland office, experience required, licensed preferred. Fax resume: 510-451-7821 or call 510-451-4225.

OPTOMETRIC Assistant/ Receptionists wanted for established 3 doctor private practice in Rockledge area of Oakland. Good phone and communication skills required. Spectacle dispensing and contact lens experience desirable but not required. Looking for someone who works well with people, can handle many tasks at once, and is not intimidated by a computer. Full-time position with medical and dental benefits. Salary negotiable. Contact Sue: 510-855-3797.

OUTDOOR ENVIRONMENTAL WORK
Young adults, 18-23. Immediate openings. Local/residential positions in California. Full-time, entry level, on the job training/ skills/ education. Start minimum wage. California Conservation Corps: 1-800-952-JOB5

PART-TIME clerical in Albany area. Filing experience a must. Entry level, some computer entry. Multi-line phones. Fax resume 510-526-9190.

PART-TIME Server, dishwasher and bus person, part-time or full-time chef. Apply: Aroma Fine Dining, 2337 Blending Ave., Alameda, Near Park Street Bridge, 337-0333.

POOL Attendant wanted, short-term, part-time, responsible, CPR desirable. Immediate opening. 510-522-0270

PRODUCTION Picture Mounting Company needs general shop help \$7/hour to start. Full medical, dental and vacation pay. Detail oriented, power tool experience helpful. Fax resume or application information to (510) 465-9000.

PRODUCTION Assistant, full-time/ part-time. Cashier/ computer experience. Take charge person needed. College Ave, Oakland 653-8058

**REAL ESTATE SALES
FREE TRAINING!**
Quick Licensing, fee reimbursement, and FREE Training for licensed agents. Positions available with the Bay Area's most innovative real estate company!

Call KAREN, Mason McCuffie
Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
1-800-499-5551

REAL ESTATE SALES
Tired of your old job? Want an exciting new career? Do you think BIG? Want a six figure income? Willing to work hard to get it? Real Estate Realty, Berkeley's best kept independent real estate company, is looking for a few energetic, motivated, enthusiastic people who believe there are no limits to their potential. Call Peter for a confidential interview at 510-527-3367, ext. 134.

**REAL ESTATE
INTERESTED IN A
CAREER IN REAL ESTATE?**
Come to a FREE information evening,
positions available in the Bay Area.
Thursday, September 11th, 6:30 p.m.,
in Kensington
RSVP: John Cashman
510-526-5143
Mason McCuffie R.E.

RECEPTIONIST
Full-time Monday through Friday with some Saturday mornings apply in person for interview at Alameda Pet Hospital, 2275 Buena Vista, Alameda

RECEPTIONISTS, Part-time, in the mornings at a full service salon. Please call 338-0464

RECEPTIONIST: Phones, Type, Word Processor Training/ Figures, Office \$1,387. Benefits. Laser Agency, 1430 Franklin, Oakland, 893-9612.

RECEPTIONIST/ Word Processor, part-time (fully 10-2 or 3). Job at London Square Law Firm. Resume/Gough, 160 Franklin Street, Suite 200, Oakland, CA 94607

RENTAL Agent for Alameda real estate company. Flexible hours. Fax resume: 510-521-3492

REPORTER WANTED
Resourceful, reliable freelance reporters to cover local news stories. Features are an occasional option. Regular hours a possibility for the right person. Send letter and clips ASAP to Berkeley Voice, 2936 Domingo, Berkeley 94705. No calls please

CAN SELL - WILL HIRE
Unique opportunity to grow with our Piedmont boutique. Applicant(s): mature, responsible, honest, motivated, 3 years retail. Management opportunities available. (510) 834-1045

Retail McCaulou's Montclair has the following openings:

- Part-time men's, Monday and Tuesday, 10-6, Friday 10-6, Sunday 11-5
- Full-time Mailing and Receiving Women's Clothing, Tuesday - Saturday, 9:30-6
- Part-time Shoes, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, 12-5, Saturday 11-5
- Part-time Men's, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5
- Part-time Children's, Wednesday 10-6, Friday 12-6, Saturday 10-6, Sunday 11-5

Free Parking, Employee Discount. Apply in person at 6211 Medea Place, Montclair

RETAIL Salesperson/ Manager. Trainee. Busy mattress, bed linen, down comforters and custom sewing business in San Francisco (near BART) seeks experienced and responsible part-time/ full-time staff. Fax resume to: 415-543-3900, phone 415-543-1800 ask for owner.

ROCKIDGE KIDS!
Experience person to work in very fun, busy and well known kids general store 20 to 40 hours. Call Nathan at 801-5437 for more information

SALES
We are the Hills Newspapers and we publish 5 outstanding community newspapers: the Montclair, The Piedmont, Alameda Journal, Berkeley Voice, and The Journal. Our exciting expansion plans result in immediate full-time sales openings in our Retail Department. Our offices are in the Oakland hills at Skyline and Redwood.

OUTSIDE SALES
Our growing Retail Advertising Department has an opening for a full-time outside sales rep. Applicant should possess previous outside sales experience, enjoy a fast pace, and be deadline oriented. Local territory. People skills, and high energy a must. Salary plus commission. Benefits, 401(k). To apply, send or fax resume: Jan Wasserman, Retail Advertising Manager, Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Road, Oakland, CA 94619. Fax 510-339-3053

SALES: Berkeley Repertory Theater currently seeking dynamic individuals for fun, lucrative subscription drive. Part-time evenings available, commission plus hourly, cash bonuses and complimentary tickets. Play a part in Tony winning theater's coming season! Call 204-8901 ext 400

SALES positions, full/ part-time. Cashier, full/ part-time. Whole Earth Acres 880 Potter Street, Berkeley. 510-845-3000

SCIENCE teacher, part-time. Outgoing Instructor needed to present fun science activities such as lasers, chemistry, etc., to elementary school kids. Need car. Experience with kids and high school science. Available 2-5 p.m. weekdays. Training and equipment provided. 283-5566

SECRETARY, Church, 10-12 hours per week, \$24/hour. Prefer marriage. Interview beginning September 15th. Send resume including computer skills and references to: Mira Vista United Church of Christ, 7075 Cutting Blvd. El Cerrito, 94530

SECRETARY wanted for congenial, four attorney Oakland (Lake Merritt) law firm. Legal secretary experience not necessary, but a plus. Full-time position. Computer network skills a plus. Send or fax resume: James G. Roberts, Johnston, Horton & Roberts, 1901 Harrison Street, #1500, Oakland, CA 94612, (510) 452-2280. No phone calls, please!

Reach
OVER 200,000
Readers Weekly
With a Classified Ad
339-8777

402 Help Wanted

SENIOR MAINTENANCE MECHANIC
Emphasis in plumbing, sheet metal, heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, refrigeration. Journeyman status of at least four years in two of the above trades - heating, ventilation, air-conditioning, refrigeration preferred \$2381-\$3006 per month plus annual fringe allocation of \$5,138. Send resume: San Leandro Unified School District, 14735 Juniper Street, San Leandro, CA 94579. Attention: Personnel. Deadline: September 12, 1997

SPECIAL SERVICES SECRETARY
7.5 hours a day, 10 months a year \$1440-\$1751 per month for 12 months, computer skills required. Type 50 pm. Send resume: San Leandro Unified School District, 14735 Juniper Street, San Leandro, CA 94579. Attention: Personnel. Deadline: September 5, 1997

SWEET DREAMS GIFT STORE
Seeking dedicated, hardworking person for full and part-time management training position. Must have retail experience, flexible schedule and great personality. Contact Gary: 549-1211

TEACHER'S Aide at fun filled large family day-care. Happy children and loving parents. Beautiful Montclair setting for high energy person. Call Donna, 338-1777

VETERINARY Receptionist needed, Full-time position. Please call 530-1353 between 2-5 Monday to Friday.

WAREHOUSE, permanent shipping/ receiving in Oakland. Lift up to 50 lbs, English speaking. Don 632-0678

WAREHOUSE, Clothing Manufacturing, lifting to 60 pounds/ sort and pack/ accuracy with numbers, needness. \$8/ hour. Start Health Benefits 601-6195.

WORD/PROCESSOR office assistant, WordPerfect 6.1, Word 7.0, 70 pm, 9-11 Monday-Friday. Phone, excellent grammar and editing skills, small counseling office, Hill Hill, \$15/hour. Resumes to: P.O. Box 11285, Oakland, 94611. Call 863-7045.

402 Independent Employment

Advertisers in this classification offer self-employment opportunities. An investment may be required.

\$1,000's POSSIBLE TYPING
Part-time. At home. Toll free 800-218-9000, ext. T-7057 for listings.

SALES
If you are reading this ad, you are unhappy "You're either out of work or you just have a job."

Do you want a career? Do you want to earn \$500+/per year? Do you want a benefit package second to none? I am going to hire 5 people this week to service families in the Bay Area with complementary arrangements. The people I am looking for must be honest, sincere, self-motivated and willing to treat every person they talk to the same way they would want to be treated. I work strictly above the board, and I expect the same work from the people that work for me. If you have these qualifications, I would very much enjoy talking to you and explain the benefits our company has to offer

CHAPEL OF THE CHIMES
4499 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland
Call Mr. O'Leary
510-654-1288 or 510-654-0123
(Leave name, number and best time to be reached)

UNPRECEDENTED OPPORTUNITY
Join a company that is leader in this new industry (nutraceuticals). Have patented, proprietary, consumable products with mass appeal. Interviewing people for business opportunities. "Investment required" Call 1-888-343-2202. Timing is essential

HOLIDAYS Coming! Discovery toys representation needed for educational toys, books, software. Fun, flexible, family business. Earn while learning. Karen (510) 522-6050

403 Salon Opportunities

ESTABLISHED Salon: Busy, friendly atmosphere. In prime location, seeks hair stylists, flexible terms. Apply in person, 1430 Park Street, Alameda, after 12 noon 865-3399

ULEE Salon and Spa is seeking highly motivated designers and color specialists to join our team of professionals at our fast growing, good London Square location. Both retail or commission. Excellent opportunities. Call 986-0343

405 Employment Exchange

CNA/AHA mother with toddler looking for room in exchange for rent work. 536-8191. References.

FEMALE, 50's, needs room/ bath in exchange for housekeeping and childcare. 527-3131

406 Employment Wanted

BERKELEY High Students available for part-time work. Career Center 548-5627

MY home office. I can provide administrative leadership, word processing, accounting, taxes (personal/business), 568-8169.

COOK PLUS. Delicious, healthy cuisine prepared in your home. Shop, errands. Excellent local references. 648-1223

CENTRAL American refugees seek employment in housecleaning, gardening, childcare, painting, moving. Skilled and reliable. 894-9011.

408 Caregiver & Domestic Help Wanted

HOUSEKEEPER for Piedmont family. Duties include: Cooking, grocery shopping, laundry, light housekeeping. Some childcare Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 2-8. 652-5767

CAREGIVER for 47 year old disabled woman, 9-3:30 Monday-Friday. References. Lincoln Berkeley, 510-527-2247

409 Childcare Wanted

CHILD CARE for Piedmont 9 year old boy. Monday-Friday, 3-7 p.m. Car required. 415-855-2586

TWO Children, 8 and 10. Tuesday/ Thursday/ Friday, 8-15 hours/ week. Start September 9. Drive to school, lessons, home. Joaquin Miller. Evenings 530-5412.

CHILD CARE/ Safe driver for 7 year old, week day afternoons. References. car, references 415-835-1678; 415-268-7252

TUTORING/ childcare, English/ French, \$10/hour. Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 3-6 p.m. Car, CDL, 465-5962

CLASSROOM aide for second grader with learning difficulties. Education or psychology experience. Nancy 420-8972

AFTER School care wanted 2 children (4 and 7) Monday, Tuesday. Must have good English and references. Kensington 524-1487

WE are seeking a kind, responsible person for our part-time position in our Montclair home. Also occasional after school care for our 7 and 11 year olds. 4 days/ week, 9:30-5. Own car, non-smoking, fluent English, references. \$13/hour. 531-4856

AFTERSCHOOL Babysitter for 4 and 7 year old, Tuesday/ Thursday/ Monday also possible. Must drive, own car, references. 635-8811

AFTER School child-care driver. Crocker Highlands for 15, 12 Monday-Friday. 3-6:30 p.m. Light housework, CDL. Call 465-0323

CHILD CARE and light housekeeping, Piedmont Tuesdays and Thursdays plus fluent English, nonsmoking, CDL. 652-1571

AFTER School childcare for lovely 8 year old girl in Crocker Highlands/ Oakland. 3-6 p.m. Monday-Friday. English speaking, car/ insurance a must. Sensitive, intelligent individual with experience and references gets top salary. 832-4922

PART-TIME childcare, cooking, light housekeeping. Montclair, Wednesday, Friday, 3-7 p.m. 7 year old twins. Fluent English. Own Car. \$10/hour. Oakland Hills References 836-1520

409 Childcare Wanted

WANTED: Tutor for 2 children, ages 10-12. Piedmont. 15-18 hours/ week. 3-6 p.m., Good pay. Need Car. Day (510) 444-0521, (510) 638-8238. Night (510) 652-6485. Start September 7th or sooner.

THREE Children afterschool, 3-8 Monday-Thursday, Car, non-smoking, \$8/hour. 338-7212.

EXCELLENT NANNY JOBS - TOP PAY
Piedmont- Part-time nanny for children ages 10, 7, 5. Hours 3-6 p.m. Must drive. Responsible, creative, intelligent. To \$15/hour.
Orinda- full-time for toddler/ newborn. Flexible hours infant experience, energetic, bright, can-do attitude \$12-\$14/hour. Offer great East Bay positions. Experience/ references. No fee.
TOWN & COUNTRY NANNIES & MOTHERS IN DEED (415) 461-7755.

HOMEWORK. Cooking for older kids. 5-7 p.m. Monday-Friday. Walk to buses. Piedmont. 652-1883

CHILD CARE wanted for active 1 year old boy. Provider must be nurturing, loving, reliable, responsible and experienced. CPR a plus. Share with one other child. Old. Thursdays, Wednesday, Friday. \$15/hour. Salary negotiable. Please call Ruth at: 510-428-2109.

AFTERSCHOOL childcare needed for 7 year old boy. My home or yours. Albany area. 558-1208.

NANNY IN PIEDMONT

Childcare for 2 year old/ coming baby. Light housekeeping, meal prep, errands. Excellent English, CDL, car. References. 30 hours/ week. Monday-Friday. Extra hours on weekends 510-547-6805

CHILD CARE: 2 boys, 9-11, in Orinda. Monday-Friday, afternoons and evenings, approximately 30 hours/ week. Must have car. 254-4650

NANNIES NEEDED
Full-time, part-time. \$9-\$12/hour. References, experienced, car required. No fee. 933-2273
Be In Our Care Nanny Agency

410 Shared Childcare

SWEET, 19 month old seeking playmate to share our warm, responsible nanny in Rockridge. 30+ hours/ week. Call 658-8111.

SHARE daycare in Piedmont Pine. Our daughter, 3 1/2, learning dance, art, music, computer from excellent, experienced French/ English teacher. 531-3174.

SHARE our loving, nurturing, English speaking nanny, with our 1 year old, CPR, first aid, own car. Montclair/ Cal Bern or Dixon 335-7443

411 Childcare - Licensed

FAMILY day care, Kensington, big house, lots of toys, loving environment. License #073400315. 528-8588

LOVING home, art, outings, meals, activities, school pickup. 1 1/2 - 4 years. Credentialed teacher. #1341219 923-0450

CREATIVE DAYCARE for ages 0-5. Gardening, arts, crafts, play time, nature walks, much more. Bilingual German/ English. #013411987. 531-6137.

412 Babysitting Offered

EXPERIENCED Babysitter available full-time, starting September. English speaking, own car, CPR training. Excellent references. 482-2243

Our loving, nurturing babysitter of 2 years is available. Great with infants and toddlers. Likes to help with the house. Reliable, never sick and has own car. Limited English but excellent comprehension and great sense of humor. Oakland, Call Kathy, day 225-3129, evenings 547-2805.

LOVELY Nanny available for part-time childcare. Many years experience. Specializes in infant development. CPR certified. Speaks English, French and Hebrew. Call Jessica 339-3560

BABYSITTING at your house. 7 years experience. Excellent references. Car/ insurance. Call Terefer 763-8575

Wonderful babysitter. Full or part-time. Highly recommended. Excellent references. Call Jaime 845-7806 or Call 273-2657.

413 Home Health Care Offered

The following people would like to be hired as Home Health Care Providers. If you are looking for a job as a Home Health Care Provider, please send Help Wanted (#408) and Caregiver/Domestic Help Wanted (#408)

ABLE CARE INC.

Full-time in-home care companions. Cooking, housekeeping, bathing, laundry, experienced 24-hour, part-time, hourly, bonded, insured. 685-4704 or 1-800-560-2253

FINANCIAL**502 Business Opportunities & Services**

Advertisers in this classification offer self-employment opportunities. An investment may be required.

IS YOUR BUSINESS FOR SALE?

Interested in Acquiring Northern California Manufacturing or Distribution business with a potential for growth. The ideal business should require capital, marketing management and a unique product position

If you are interested in selling all or part of your business, please send a brief business description and product brochure to: 5707 Redwood Rd., #4, Box K, Oakland, CA 94619

TURN your computer into a cash register. Receive cash for software information exclusively yours. 510-893-5636

FOR SALE - MISCELLANEOUS**602 Appliances**

MAYTAG: portable dishwasher, never used; washer almost new; dryer (older 120 watt) 569-5340

MAYTAG Washer \$200 and Maytag Gas Dryer \$175 or both for \$350. Call 530-1416.

WASHER/ Dryer. Kenmore, Sears, apartment size. Call 510-339-4036 leave message

603 Garage & Estate Sales**GARAGE SALE ADS?**

See Clip 'n Go on the 1st page of Classified Ads

605 Home Furnishings

15th ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL
Buy 2 or more custom mini-blinds this year and we will clean them free of charge next year. Call Marsh Interiors at 569-7540 for details

QUALITY dining table/ chairs 1912, \$3000. Toy collector furniture. 525-5520

20 Antique Iron Beds, One with angel's one traditional. 547-3560

RELOCATION Sale. Whirlpool washer and dryer (gas), \$400. Technique adjustable storage/ display shelves, \$500. Sofa/ bed, plush with blue and gold pattern, \$350. Butcher block kitchen table, \$50. Dining room table, oval, English oak, \$100. 549-9685

GREEN Couch, \$500. Entertainment Center, \$200. The kitchen table with chairs, \$400. Call 562-3133

606 Miscellaneous For Sale

COMPUTER: Compag 486-50 MHz with pre-installed software (Windows, Quicken, and MS Office), monitor and printer not included. Three hours of training. \$500. Evenings 339-6049.

YAKIMA Bike rack with locks and foot mounted \$150. 824-8521

THE Hills Swim Club membership for sale \$2500. 531-6902

606 Miscellaneous For Sale

THE Hills Swim and Tennis Club, family membership, \$2500 855-5270

KENMORE Microwave Oven \$60; excellent condition. Exercise \$33 339-8421

FAMILY Membership, Montclair Swim Club, \$400 547-3321

JOGGING Stroller, excellent condition (low mileage) \$150 or best offer. 655-2143

607 Miscellaneous Wanted

WANTED: An old toy train Lionel, Marx, American Flyer. Ives - 547-1278

608 Musical Instruments

**WAREHOUSE
★ PIANO SALE ★
Up To 50% OFF!
2 DAYS ONLY
SATURDAY 10-5 & SUNDAY 12-5
COLTON PIANO
2421 Peretta St., Oakland
836-1564**

BABY Grand Piano- M. Phyllis. In perfect, beautiful condition. \$2500. Call Andrea 339-2449

609 Pets - Care & Supplies

KENNEL Alternative. Pet sitting. Pils. Owner operated, bonded, certified. Cats Cradle (dogs, too) 658-7195, 658-7824.

EVERY Dog Has Its Day Care. A fun, professional daycare facility for your dog. (510) 655-7832.

RENTALS - MISCELLANEOUS**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to Federal Fair Housing Act in 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial composition or marital and physical handicap, or an intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination."

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the above. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Provided as a service by Hills Newspapers, Inc., and the Oakland Association of REALTORS on behalf of the REALTORS who are signatories on the Voluntary Affirmative Marketing Agreement.

704 Housing Wanted

FOREIGN STUDENTS NEED HOUSING - UC Berkeley Extension- call 643-9083. Students coming in from all over the world to study English and Business/ Marketing. Sessions all year round. Short and long-term housing in Berkeley only. Needed now for English sessions August 20th- October 17th, and October 22nd- December 19th and for Business/ Marketing sessions September 2nd- December 19th. Private apartments, family homesteads that include meals and family activities, and apartments shared with UC students are especially desirable. Students will arrive a few days before, and depart a few days after they course. Most students stay for only one session, but some may stay for a few sessions. Payment varies; students pay you directly

CHRISTIAN married couple, excellent credit, seeks lease option/ owner financing for two bedroom home. 814-8902

PIEDMONT, 1 bedroom apartment wanted. Excellent employer/ landlord references. Finder's fee \$100. 465-8414 before 8:30 a.m. or after 6 p.m.

706 Sublets & Short-Term Rentals

LOVELY little house, 2 bedrooms, 48th Webster. \$800/month. September (?) through December. Amy, 428-1097.

SOULTH Lake Tahoe, large, luxurious, secluded home. Sleeps 6-8. 3 baths. Weekly, monthly rates. (510) 523-3737

MENDOCINO

Lovely ocean front home. Three bedrooms, 2 bath, fireplace, hot tub. Tranquil and enchanting. Ask for the house on "Off Camo." 1-800-525-0049 or 510-272-0392, evenings. Special rates available

APTS - CONDOS - FLATS FOR RENT

2 BED. HOME RENTALS
Berkeley

BERKELEY CONNECTION
RENTALS

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FREE PREVIEWS • FREE PHONE USE
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10 a.m. - 6 p.m., 7 days
Landlords Can List Free!

4-BED. HOME RENTALS
Berkeley

HILLS: Fireplace, patio, sauna/jacuzzi,
parking, 3 baths. Campus/Alameda.
Hillside Homefinders 549-8450

El Cerrito & North

BRIDGEMONT Annex. 6029 Orchard. 1920's
style home. In good location. \$1350
Call 526-9696.

THREE bedroom, 2 bath, El Cerrito hills.
1.5 covered porch with rear deck. 1306
El Cerrito Dr. 482-1888, ext. 34.

Oakland & Piedmont

2 BED. HOME RENTALS
Oakland & Piedmont

LAUREL District. Stream in backyard,
pets considered. Arkansas/Laurel
Hillside Homefinders 549-6450.

UPPER LAUREL, 2 bedrooms, great condi-
tion. Hardwood floors, fireplace, dining room,
yard. 482-2968.

UPPER LAUREL sunny, quiet. Built-ins,
hardwood floors, large fenced yard, garage.
Call 555-1131.

UPPER LAUREL, 2 bedrooms, great condi-
tion. Hardwood floors, fireplace, dining room,
yard. 482-2968.

UPPER LAUREL sunny, quiet. Built-ins,
hardwood floors, large fenced yard, garage.
Call 555-1131.

UPPER LAUREL, 2 bedrooms, great condi-
tion. Hardwood floors, fireplace, dining room,
yard. 482-2968.

UPPER LAUREL sunny, quiet. Built-ins,
hardwood floors, large fenced yard, garage.
Call 555-1131.

3 BED. HOME RENTALS
Oakland & Piedmont

BRIDGEMONT Hills. View, 3 bedroom, dining,
hardwood, laundry, yard, garage. Red-
reign. 536-3507

3 DUPLEX flat 2 bath, yard, laundry
13/150. Open Saturday 1-3.
528-8065.

BRIDGEMONT Heights, 4131 Huntington St.,
dining room, view, modern kitchen, garage
cars, storage room 1800 sq. ft., 2 phone
lines, alarm, cable TV. Open Saturday, Sun-
day. 528-8065.

3 SPACIOUS 3 bedroom, 2 bath, washer,
dryer, small yard, fireplace, hardwood floors, near
Grove. 5715 Fleming Ave., 549-0203.

THREE bedroom, 2 bath, 2 car garage. 1
price. 538-9129.

NEWLY remodeled, all new appliances,
hardwood floors, fireplace. Furnished or unfur-
nished. 555-8122.

THREE bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, luxury town-
home, in promenade view, fireplace, garage, bal-
cony/dryer. 236-8912.

OAKLAND Hills, spacious 3 bedroom, 2 1/2
bath, years old, decks, family room,
526-8621.

WHY RENT? OWN!!
Down plus first month's rent move you
into a 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home. \$1600
per month. \$500 monthly credit toward pur-
chase. Call Karen A. Carey, Sharon 256-4346.

4-BED. HOME RENTALS
Oakland & Piedmont

NEAR Piedmont Ave. spacious, hard-
wood floors, 4 1/2 baths. No pets, non-smoking.
Call 526-1504.

OVERLOOKING Grass Valley, above Golf
Club. Nestled in the hills with spacious rooms,
hardwood floors, large decks, beautiful view.
2 levels, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, close
to Golf Course. Evenings call 638-5119;
weekend 1-800-896-2643.

PEDMONT Pines, 3 baths, 2 master
bedrooms. 3003 Tethered. 6 months lease.
526-9626.

LARGE, excellently located Spanish styled
home. In Piedmont border. 5+
bedrooms, 3 car garage, outdoor pool, hot tub,
large horse room for hobby or office. Walk
to bus. Easy San Francisco commute.
Philip/Olson/Tibbitts/Gart
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of large recreation room for laundry, cooking, eat-
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\$750 LARGE Glenview house, 2 rooms, 1 fur-
nished, plus 2nd large room for quiet individual
use of desk, kitchen, laundry. No Pet. Non-
smoking. 531-7425.

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vate entrance and bath, parking, shared kitchen,
garden, spa. 855-5312.

\$600 UPPER Rockridge, private entrance, large
room, walk-in closet, shared kitchen/ bathroom,
laundry, yard. 655-2740.

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781 Alameda

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Call

Goings On About Town

Children

Young Enrichment Classes: starting September; cooking, drawing, knitting, music exploration, kids aerobics, yoga, Y Basketball League, volleyball; Albany YMCA; call for brochure and more information, 525-4444.

Marital Arts for Kids: 5:45 - 6:45, weekly through Thursday; instruction in aikido-jujitsu for ages 5 - 14, monthly free with the purchase of a \$31 uniform; Sennin foundation for Japanese Cultural Arts, 10323 Pablo Ave., El Cerrito; 526-7518.

Berkeley Public Library

Baby Bounce and Toddler Tales: every Thursday, 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.; for very young children (up to age 3); stories, songs, rhymes, simple fingerplays and games; each half-hour time includes multicultural stories, songs or rhymes in Spanish, Westwood, 1125 University Ave.; 644-6870.

Lawrence Hall of Science

New Science and Math After School registration begins Sept. 6; classes begin Oct. 6; enrich your child's learning with LHS after-school classes for preschool through high school students. Classes meet once a week at 4 p.m. for eight weeks; programs include "Explainer" classes for K-1 students; "New Science and Math," featuring science and math with electronic and hair-raising fun with electricity and colorful science and math, featuring astronomy, animal camouflage, dinosaurs, and color mixing. New classes include Net Navigator (ages 4 - 6) and Web Page Wonders (ages 5 - 8); 642-5134.

Grizzly Peak, below Grizzly Peak, Berkeley; 642-5123.

Sept. 5

Breast Self-Exam Class: noon - 2 p.m.; informational discussion with a doctor and the opportunity to practice under supervision; Regional Cancer Center at Doctors Medical Center, 2400 Campus, 2000 Vale Rd., San Francisco, 94406; appointment required, call 225-0256.

Sept. 8

International Folk Dancing: 7:45 - 9 p.m.; eight weeks long; the class is taught by four eager, enthusiastic instructors who welcome all; no experience necessary! Energetic and fun; Live at Park, 1301 Shattuck at Berryman, Berkeley; 525-0174; \$20 (for eight weeks).

Sept. 9

East Bay Judo Institute: 7:30 - 9 p.m.; "Beginning Judo for Busy Adults" consecutive Tuesday evenings through Oct. 28; Judo is a martial art and philosophy of life that originated in Japan; this class will teach participants fundamentals of Judo techniques, including learning to fall properly, element throwing and pinning techniques, as

well as beginning chocking an arm lock techniques; 11165 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito (across from St. John's School); 237-0607; \$100.

Upcoming

Amateur Radio Classes: 7:15 - 9:15 p.m.; the East Bay Amateur Radio Club announces the start of classes that will prepare the attendees for taking the tests that will result in licenses to use amateur radios. The classes will start during the second week of September, and end the last week of October; classes are free, the text book is about \$20; for more information, call John Wood, KF6HFA, at 234-0527 evenings.

PACE; Fall 1997 enrollment for Program for Adult College Education is open at Vista Community College through Sept. 5. PACE is a college alternative for adults with job and family responsibilities and allows them to finish their freshman and sophomore years in a two and a half to three year period, then transfer to a four-year college to complete their bachelor's degrees; 841-0809; \$13 per unit.

Swimming classes; The Albany Pool is accepting mail registration for the Fall session postmarked Aug. 18 or later. Adult classes begin on Sept. 1, children's classes begin on Sept. 15; Albany Unified School District, 904 Talbot Ave., Albany, 94706; 559-6640.

Richmond Art Center; registration is now open for over fifty classes and workshops for adults, children and teens in a variety of visual media. Classes begin Sept. 8. Register in person Tuesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.; Saturday noon - 4 p.m., or by mail, 2540 Barrett Ave., Civic Center Plaza, Richmond, 94804; \$5 discount on registration received by Sept. 2.

Ongoing

Full Computer Literacy Classes; City of Berkeley's Young Adult Project is now taking registration for computer classes, open to students, adults and senior citizens who are interested in learning basic computer hardware, software and systems. Classes begin in September, with priority for registration given to South and West Berkeley residents; Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Services Center, 1730 Oregon St., Berkeley; 644-6226.

Health, Fitness & Community Education; classes open to all in salsa, flamenco, ballroom, Afro-Brazilian, bellydance, modern jazz, yoga, chi gung, tai chi, aikido karate, self-defense, fitness boxing, and more; University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; 848-6370; \$7 - \$10 drop in fees.

Salsa Lessons; 7 - 8 p.m., beginners, 8 - 9 p.m. intermediate; Steve Friedman gives Salsa dance lessons every Monday night at the Francis Albrier Community Center, 2800 Park St., Berkeley; 287-9501; \$7 for one, \$12 for both lessons.

No Sweat Aerobic & Dance Studio Tribal Bellydance with "Luna" Sundays at 10:15 a.m. & Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m.

Latin Rhythms with Tedje Rose Sundays 12:30 p.m. & Tuesdays at 6:30 p.m. Brazilian Dance with Conceicao Sun-

days at 11:30 a.m.; Wednesday at 5:30 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:15 a.m. World Beat Workout by Kristi Rudolf Saturday at 11:30 a.m.; Monday at 5:30 p.m. & Thursday at 6:30 p.m. 1831 Solano Ave., Berkeley; 528-1958; \$7 - \$9.

Community Events

Sept. 7

31st Annual Japanese Church Bazaar of the Sycamore Congregational Church; noon to 5 p.m.; Japanese food, home-made pies, hotdogs, hamburgers, hot and cold beverages; handcrafts, plants, door prizes and games for young children; 1111 Navellier St., El Cerrito, between Schmidt and Moerer Avenues. Everyone is welcome.

PediatricCare assists children and families who are coping with life-threatening illness and loss. Volunteer recruiting begins Sept. 6. Volunteers make home visits and facilitate support groups for children and their families who are coping with these challenges. 208-3335

Ongoing

Cars for a Cure; help children and adults suffering from devastating digestive diseases by donating your used car, truck or motorhome to the Crohn's and Colitis foundation of America, Inc. (Greater Bay Area Chapter). Receive a valuable tax deduction and free towing and/or pickup. All proceeds directly benefit programs, services and research to find a cure; (415) 578-6590 or 1-800-3-AUTO-77.

Fifty-Plus Fitness Association; 8:45 a.m.; second Sunday of each month; three mile walk/run, wear good running or walking shoes, all levels of ability are welcome, coffee meeting at a nearby restaurant afterward; Tilden Park, Inspiration Point; 530-2790.

Volunteers needed; Crisis support Services of Alameda County, formerly Suicide Prevention, receives nearly 50,000 calls per year and the need for motivated, committed people to serve the 24-hour crisis lines is constant. No prior experience required, training provided; 848-1515.

Seeking Volunteers; Help East Bay children who face loss and serious illness within their families. PediatricCare volunteers make home visits and facilitate support groups for children and their families who are coping with these challenges; 32 hour training begins Sept. 6; 208-3335.

Friends of Marjia Foundation; asking to help bring a documentary film about the life and work of the late archaeologist Marjia Gimbutas, one of the most influential and controversial women of this century; Reclaiming "Friends of Marjia Project" P.O. Box 410187, San Francisco, 94141-0187.

Song Contest: Chief Operator Teen Driving Program, teens are urged to write their own Traffic Safety Song for prizes, fame, and public education; Chief Operator Program, c/o Albany Police Dept., 1000 San Pablo Ave., Albany, 94706 Deadline is Oct. 15.

Volunteers Needed to work in the Alzheimer's Respite Social Day Car program, Tuesdays from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. No experience necessary; call Ellen, 215-4340 for more information.

Kensington 55+ Activity Center

Sept. 4; Generational Update: Girl Scouts; a volunteer will give a presentation with slides. First Thursday Potluck Lunch will be served.

Sept. 11; Music; Bruce Loeb plays Piano to Silent Movies. Call for the regular weekly schedule. Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington; 526-9146.

North Berkeley Senior Center

Sept. 4; 1 p.m.; movie, "Amadeus"

Sept. 5; 1 p.m. musical, "New Moon"

Sept. 8; 10 a.m. - 12 p.m.; East Bay Paratransit Photos; 10:30 a.m. Digestive Disorders discussed by Dr. McGillis; 1:15 p.m.; Classical Piano concert by Steve Amston

Sept. 9; 1 - 3 p.m.; AC Transit ID photos taken

Sept. 10; 10:45 a.m.; Taking Control of Clutter Before it Controls You by Alan Gril

Sept. 11; 11 p.m.; Stretch Exercise with Josephine Castillo; 1 p.m. Ballroom Dancing with Roman Ostrowski

Call for support groups and special services.

1901 Hearst at Martin Luther King Jr. Way; 644-6107.

Exhibits

Sept. 10

Ceramic Still Life; through Dec. 13; The California College of Arts and Crafts presents a survey of work by over 40 contemporary ceramic artists from throughout the United States; CCAC's Oliver Art Center at the Oakland Campus, 5212 Broadway; 594-3650.

Sept. 11

Gourds; through Oct. 10; Nancy Miller exhibits her unique collection, including gourds decorated with beads, bones, ostrich feathers, black bamboo, and flowers. "It is the gourds themselves, with their great diversity of shape, surface mottling, and color that help determine how the finished work will look," said Miller; Off Center Gallery, 2136 Oxford St., Berkeley; 846-9655.

Ongoing

Folding Screens; Jim Grant, Madeleine Nieta, Jennifer Ewing, Otto Rojas and others working in wood, metal, canvas and rubber; many people live in shared spaces. An elegant room screen by an artist may be an economical and dramatic solution; 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. Wednesday - Sunday through Sept. 21; artist's reception Aug. 24, 5 - 8 p.m.; Viva! Gallery, 1440 University Ave, Berkeley; 548-3791.

Baua Devi; through Oct. 26; a debut exhibition by the Indian artist of paintings on paper and a selection of other works by other artists from the Mithila region of northeastern India; part of the MATRIX program; Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive, 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley.

Photography; through Sept. 12; Kira Chuchom, Liz Corden, Marinell Daniel, Shelly Erceg, Bill gimbel, Kent Hasel, Beth Kientzle, Jan Potts, George Protos, Robert Schwein, Abby Zimberg.

Sticks Fine Art Gallery; Carol Aust paintings and Liz Maxwell paintings and etchings; through Sept. 10; artist reception Aug. 15; 1579B Solano Ave., Berkeley; 526-6603.

Jews, Germany, Memory: Photographs by Edward Serotta, 1988 - 96; the Berlin-based photojournalist's thought-provoking photos and text probe the future of Jewish life in contemporary unified Germany; through Oct. 12; Judah L. Magnes Museum, 2911 Russell St., Berkeley; 549-6950.

Berkeley Art Museum

Sept. 6; 2 p.m.; "The Fragrance of Ink" guided tour with Korea University Museum curator, Sang Deok Kim.

Sept. 7; 2 p.m.; "The Fragrance of Ink" tour with Korean art specialist Linda Choy. 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley

Lectures and Workshops

Sept. 5

"The Russian Mafia in California: Significant and Growing"; 11:15 a.m.; social hour; 11:45 a.m. luncheon; 12:30 p.m. speaker; Linda Bryant, Staff, State Attorney General; City Commons Club at Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave., Berkeley; luncheon \$10.75 or \$12.25; admission with coffee \$1.

Sept. 6

Financial Planning and Investing for your Future; 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; demonstrates investment strategies designed to lead to a secure financial future; Vista Community College, 2020 Milvia St., between University and Addison, room 205; 841-8860 extension 256; \$25.

Sept. 7

"Art and Consciousness in Tibetan Buddhism"; 6 p.m.; Sylvia Gretchen, Dean of Nyingma Studies at the Nyingma Institute, will discuss how art is used in meditation and what can be learned from Tibetan art today. Tibetan Nyingma Institute, 1815 Highland Place, Berkeley; 843-6812.

The Practice of Teshuvah: Preparing for Yom Kippur; 10 - 11:30 a.m.; Sundays through Sept. 21; a three part series for those who desire a sustained encounter with the classical text, concentrating on Maimonides' Hilchot Teshuvah, the Laws of Repentance. Rabbi Stuart Kelman, Dr. Jane Rubin and Dr. Esther Brass will be the guides through this text. Knowledge of Hebrew is not required to participate. Library of congregation Netivot Shalom, 1841 Berkeley Way, corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Berkeley; Child care is available by advance reservation, 549-9447, extension 58; for more information, call 549-9447 extension 59.

Sept. 9

Maharishi Vedic School; 7:30 p.m.; free introductory lecture on the Transcendental Meditation program, founded by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi; "Freedom from stress and the full potential of human consciousness"; 548-1144.

Sept. 10

"Art-On-Site"; ten week slide lecture and field trip series to museums, galleries and exhibitions through Nov. 12; Berkeley-Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St., near Rose and Shattuck; 848-0731 for enrollment.

Co Housing slide presentation; 7 p.m.; Architect Kathryn McCamant and Charles Durrett pioneered the concept of CoHousing in the United States and are America's most experienced CoHousing designers and developers; The CoHousing Company, 1250 Addison St. #113 at Bonar, Berkeley; 549-9980.

Asian art with a focus on India; 7:30 p.m.; a lecture co-sponsored by Mills and BAM; Dr. Vishakha Desai of the Asia Society, New York, will consider Asian art within the context of international contemporary art; a reception and free viewing of the "Women Artists of India" exhibit will follow; Berkeley Art Museum, 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley.

International House

Sept. 4; 7:30 p.m.; "On the Road" in Latin America, with world traveler Richard MacBride, who shares experiences and slides of his two year adventure around the Latin American continent; \$2.

Tuesday & Saturday 9 am - 1 pm

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Sept. 11; 7:30 p.m.; "Bilingual Education on Two Coasts - Comparison and contrast; a talk and question and answer session with Dr. Rachel Moran, a Professor of Law at UC-Berkeley's Boalt Hall; \$2.

2299 Piedmont Avenue, Berkeley; 642-9490

Turning Point Career Center

Sept. 4; 4 - 5 p.m.; drop-in support groups for job seekers and career changers; \$10

Sept. 9; 4 p.m.; Assess Your Interests Using the COPS Inventory; \$15

Sept. 9; 12 - 1 p.m.; Careers in Museums and Other Cultural Centers with guest speaker Dana Mitroff, coordinator at UCB Art Museum; \$3

Sept. 9; 8 - 8 p.m.; Sept. 11 10:30 - 2:30 p.m.; Interview with Confidence: Tips and Practice; \$5 University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, 848-6375

Literary Events

Sept. 5

By, For, About Older Women; 1:15 - 3:15 p.m.; some good books and other things; Berkeley Adult School Older Adult Program; instructor: Helen Ripper Wheeler; North Berkeley Senior Center, 1901 Hearst, corner of Martin Luther King Jr. Way; 549-2970 for more information.

Sept. 10

Book Reading at Brown Bag Forum; 12:15 p.m.; author Bettina Vitell will discuss her new book, *The World In a Bowl of Tea*, and describe the details and nuances of the Japanese Tea Ceremony as well as recipes from her book; Albany YMCA; 525-1130.

Sept. 11

Robert H. Hopcke; 7:30 p.m.; a book signing of *There Are No Accidents: Synchronicity and the Stories of Four Lives*; Cody's, 2454 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley.

Black Oak Books

Sept. 4; 7:30 p.m.; Honor Moore, *The White Blackbird*

Sept. 7; 7:30 p.m.; Emily Leider, *Becoming Mae West*

Sept. 8; 7:30 p.m.; Robin White, *Siberian Light*

Sept. 9; 7:30 p.m.; Robert Bingham, *Pure Slaughter Value*

Sept. 10; 7:30 p.m.; Rilla Askew, *The Mercy Seat*

Sept. 11; 7:30 p.m.; Julie Smith, *Crescent City Kill*

1491 Shattuck Avenue at Vine, Berkeley; 486-0698

Easy Going Travel Shop & Bookstore

Sept. 8; 7:30 p.m.; Hillary Bradt, England's legendary travel writer gives a slide presentation and talk on the people, wildlife and natural history of Madagascar from his book, *Guide to Madagascar*. 1385 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; 843-3533.

Gaia Bookstore and Community Center

Sept. 8; 7:30 p.m.; Gay & Kathryn Hendricks, *The conscious Heart: Seven Soul Choices that Create Your Relationship Destiny*

Sept. 9; 7:30 p.m.; Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni, *Leaving Yuba City*

Sept. 10; 7:30 p.m.; Penney Peirce, *The Intuitive Way: A Guide to Living From Inner Wisdom*

Sept. 11; 7:30 p.m.; Candace Pert, *Molecules of Emotion: Why You Feel the Way You Feel*

1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; 848-GAIA; all events \$3.

La Peña Cultural Center

Open Mic Poetry in the cafe has new summer hours, Wednesdays beginning at 8 p.m. except for Nina and Diana's workshops every third Wednesday.

3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley; 849-2568.

Meetings

Sept. 6

Daughters of the American Revolution; noon; the Berkeley Hills Chapter of the DAR present Francis Zeveloff, State Chairman who will speak on Constitution Week; Kensington Community Center, 59 Arlington Ave., Ginger Ward, 525-8654; \$8 for lunch.

Sept. 9

Good Morning Berkeley!; 7 - 8:30 p.m.; Berkeley Chamber of Commerce Monthly Breakfast Meeting; The State of the Campus, "First Impressions" with UC-Berkeley Chancellor Robert M. Berdhal, speaker; Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant Ave.; \$25

Ongoing

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Catholics; 7:30 p.m.; meet each first and third Thursday of the month; The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Catholics seek to affirm and to integrate sexuality and spirituality in the Christian faith through the Catholic tradition; Newman Hall, 2700 Dwight Way at College Avenue, Berkeley; Wendy, 849-3910 or Antonio at 841-7718.

Toastmasters on Campus; 6:15 p.m.; practice public speaking in a supportive environment; every Tuesday; 2515 Hilleglass Ave., Berkeley; Odette Lard, 643-7645 (w) or Al Mangarin 970-4355 (w).

East Bay Genealogical Society; 10 a.m. the second Wednesday of every month; every meeting is preceded by an hour (9 a.m. - 10 a.m.) of casual "drop in" meeting for members and guests who are encouraged to bring problems to the forum for help and possible solutions; Latter Day Saints Interstate Center, 4798 Lincoln Ave., Oakland, Room 30; 635-6692.

TOPS; 7:15 - 8:30; Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) meets every Thursday evening; First Baptist Church, Richmond, Solano below Arlington; Betty Coates, 235-0490 for more information.

TOPS; 9:30 a.m. weigh in; 10:30 a.m. meeting; Albany Chapter, meets Monday mornings; 980 Stannage Ave., Albany; 528-9056 (Paul)

Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters; 6:15 - 7:30 p.m.; public speaking skills and metaphysics come together; ongoing meetings first and third Thursdays; 2515 Hilleglass Ave., Berkeley; 848-6510.

Berkeley Gray Panthers

Sept. 9; 12:30 p.m.; Health Committee

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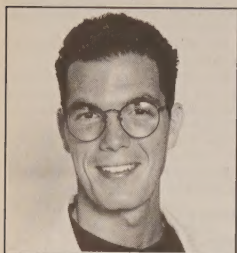
Yom Kippur Friday, October 10, 6 p.m.
Saturday, October 11, 9 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Saturday, October 11, 4 - 7:30 p.m.

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Fitness & Health



As I See It

by
Dr. Jason A. Deitch

Our future can only be as promising as our children. That is why it is so vital to ensure that the children of today are healthy and well in order to be the leaders of tomorrow. Many doctors are concerned that we are unconsciously teaching our children that it is normal to take drugs.

More than 1 million American children take Ritalin regularly to help them with Attention Deficit Disorder, an increase of two and a half times since 1990. These statistics and others have recently been reported in the recent cover story in Newsweek magazine that asks "Our We overmedicating Our Kids?". The article goes on to reveal the controversies of ADD/ADHD. The fact that there is no blood test, no CT scan to determine who needs it; diagnosing attention deficit remains as much art as science. In a recent survey, almost half of the pediatricians said they spent less than an hour evaluating children before prescribing Ritalin. There are no long-term studies to reassure parents that this stimulant isn't causing some hidden havoc to their child. Among today's 38 million children at the ages of 5 to 14, 1.3 million take it regularly. Sales of the drug last year alone topped \$350 million. It is a powerful drug, and one that the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration has classified as a Schedule II controlled substance, in the same category as cocaine, methadone and methamphetamine. It's so common in some upscale precincts that a mini black market has emerged in a handful of playgrounds and campuses. "Vitamin R" - one of its recreational names - sells for \$3 to \$15 per pill, to be crushed and snorted for a cheap and relatively modest buzz. What is important to know is that "researchers believe methylphenidate juices up the central nervous system. The drug appears to have its own attention deficit, taking effect in 30 minutes and then petering out after three or four hours."

Another common health issue for children is ear infections (Otitis Media). According to the Journal of the American Medical Association the antibiotic, "Amoxicillin" used for over two decades to treat ear infections, has been questioned as an effective treatment for chronic ear infections. Recent studies suggest that bacteria have developed resistance to antibiotics as a result of misuse of these once thought to be "wonder drugs". Resistance means that it is more difficult and stressful for the body to heal and become healthy once again. According to Dr. Michael D. Poole, a professor of otolaryngology and pediatrics at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Houston "most infants and young children with otitis media don't need antibiotics at all."

"Antibiotics are commonly used in office practice to treat colds and other viral upper respiratory tract infections, even though they neither shorten the course of acute illness nor prevent secondary bacterial infections" said Dr. James Hughes, director of the CDC's National Center for Infectious Diseases. A CDC analysis of physician prescriptions published in the Journal of the American Medical Association shows that, in 1992, doctors wrote nearly 18 million antibiotic prescriptions for upper respiratory tract infec-

tions - an ailment for which they are essentially useless.

The idea that there is a pill or potion for every pain, upset or discomfort leads us in the direction of a drug induced society. We create the patterns and habits that our children learn from. A child is not feeling well and goes to mom and dad and asks for help. As parents we have been taught that one should offer some sort of treatment for a child's malady. Most often the body heals itself in spite of our intervention and the child soon feels better. Again, the child comes to mom and dad and says "I don't feel well", once again mom and dad offer some type of over the counter (OTC) drug to relieve the child's discomfort. The next time it happens, as it always does the OTC drugs are not effective. Mom and dad then take their child to the person who they trust and respect the most, their family pediatrician, and is frequently prescribed more drugs.

When our children get older they become a bit more independent. They may become emotionally upset because they didn't make the sports team or their boyfriend/girlfriend just broke up with them. To relieve this pain, upset and discomfort, they do what they have been taught, turn to drugs. Their parents and family doctor who always cared for them and prescribed a drug which attempted to help their symptoms becomes a learned habit. We are all exposed to the \$13 Billion annually spent on television DRUG advertising. Their message, when you feel OK, you are healthy and when you don't, take our drug and soon you will feel better. We watch the miracles of television medicine on ER, Chicago Hope, Marcus Welby, St. Elsewhere and are amazed at the power of drugs. Then, we as a community are upset and confused as to why so many people turn to drugs for relief.

Albert Einstein said, "The world we have created today has problems which cannot be solved by thinking the way we thought when we created them." How can we believe that we can treat every pain, upset or discomfort with drugs and not think that we are creating a drug dependent community? The solution to health and wellness exists at a different level of thinking, as Einstein suggests. Let us remember that we are healthy, not because of the drugs that we take, but in spite of them.

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When you go to a permanent cosmetic technician for a consultation check the office for cleanliness and be sure sterilized disposable needles are being used. Find out how long the technician has been in the field and ask to see their portfolio of work. For more information on permanent make-up contact Lisa Bruce at 1225 Marin Avenue, Albany, 527-2376 or the Society of Permanent Cosmetic Professionals Hotline at 1-888-584-SPCP.



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